

289.C
F91i
1888

MINUTES

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

AND

W. E. B. DUBOIS

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS

OF

ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING

OF THE

Society of Friends,

HELD AT

Clear Creek,

Putnam County, Illinois,

NINTH MONTH,

1888.

MINUTES

AND

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LIBRARY
ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS

OV 28 1917

OF

ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING

OF THE

Society of Friends,

HELD AT

CLEAR CREEK,

PUTNAM COUNTY, ILLINOIS,

NINTH MONTH,

1888.

J. W. MERRILL,
Pamphlet and Job Printer,
State Centre, Iowa.

ILLINOIS
YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS.

↔MINUTES.↔

1. Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends met in its fourteenth annual session at Clear Creek, Putnam county, Illinois, Ninth month, 17th day, 1888.

2. The representatives on being called were present as follows:

From Blue River Quarter:—George W. Bingham, Hannah Bingham, Samuel Coale, Edward Coale, Thos. Trueblood, Mary G. Smith, Lydia A. Wilson, and Mary C. White.

From Prairie Grove Quarter:—Thos. E. Hogue, Ann Hogue, Lydia Hartley, Ann Welch, Mary Pilkington, Henry H. Nichols, and Lauretta H. Nichols.

3. To gather the exercises of this Meeting and report to a future session, we appoint David Wilson, Samuel Coale, Thos. H. Trueblood, Caroline Lukens, Mary C. White, and Lauretta H. Nichols.

4. Mary C. White, on behalf of committee appointed last year to assist the clerks in revising the minutes and have 1,500 copies printed and distributed, reports its duty performed at a cost of \$132.50, as shown by the treasurer's account.

5. To assist the clerks in revising the minutes of this Meeting and have 1,500 copies printed and distributed, we appoint Henry H. Nichols, Lydia K. Penrose, Lauretta H. Nichols, Thos. D. Tomlinson, and Theo. P. Marsh, who are authorized

to draw on the treasurer for the necessary funds and report next year.

6. The clerks inform this Meeting that the publishing committee placed in the hands of the librarian and clerks, copies of the printed minutes for preservation.

7. Morris A. Wilson and Amanda Mills report that they recorded the minutes of last year until the close of the separate session, as directed.

8. Martha M. Wilson reports she procured a shade for the lamp, as directed.

9. Epistles from all the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond were received, and those from Philadelphia and Baltimore were read at this time. Their contents were deeply interesting to our best feelings.

10. To prepare replies to the epistles we have received, we appoint John R. Benjamin, Anna Wilson, Henry Atherton, Elwood P. Cooper, Sarah A. Coale, Ann Eliza Meade, Amy Votaw, Margaret Merritt, Levi Pilkington, Thos. E. Hogue, Elmina Averill, Mary G. Smith, and Lydia A. Wilson, who are to report to a future session.

11. The representatives are directed to confer together at the rise of this session and present, this afternoon, names of suitable Friends to serve as clerks the ensuing year.

12. Then adjourned to 2 o'clock this afternoon.

SECOND-DAY AFTERNOON.

13. The 17th of Ninth month, at the time adjourned to, Friends assembled.

14. Mary C. White, on behalf of the representatives, reports that they have conferred together and are united in proposing the names of Oliver Wilson for clerk and Elizabeth H. Coale for assistant. who, after being separately considered, are united with, and they are accordingly appointed for the ensuing year.

15. Minutes of unity were read for ministering and visiting Friends from their respective Meetings. The clerk is directed to prepare a minute acknowledging their presence at the usual time.

16. A cordial welcome is also extended to all present from other Yearly Meetings who are without minutes.

17. Morris A. Wilson, one of our correspondents, reports that all epistles entrusted to his care were copied, signed by the clerks, and forwarded to the Meetings addressed. The clerk informs the Meeting that the epistles entrusted to the other correspondent were signed and forwarded.

18. To serve this Meeting as correspondents the ensuing year, Edith Mills and Martha M. Wilson are appointed, who are to report next year.

19. The remaining epistles were read at this time, and the same interest and solemnity was manifest during their reading that was so apparent while the former epistles were being presented, many testifying to the truth they contained.

20. The Meeting then adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

THIRD-DAY MORNING.

21. The 18th of Ninth month, at the hour adjourned to, Friends assembled.

22. The Meeting at this time entered upon the consideration of the state of society as shown by the answers to the queries from our subordinate Meetings. The following answers were adopted as representing our condition at the present time:

SUMMARY OF ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

Ans. to 1st Query.—Friends are mostly diligent in the attendance of meetings for worship on First-days when health permits; mid-week meetings neglected by many; unbecoming behavior mostly avoided. The hour of meeting not always so well observed as desirable, though some improvement in this particular is noted.

Ans. to 2nd.—Christian love and fellowship are generally well maintained among us. Tale-bearing and detraction discouraged. What differences have been known have received attention.

Ans. to 3rd.—Many of our members observe simplicity and utility in their apparel and avoid superfluity. But a more watchful care would be profitable in some cases. Some are thoughtful to discourage the changing of fashions, and they generally use plain and honest speech and kind and gentle dignity of deportment. They endeavor to guard against reading

frivolous and pernicious literature, and such as has a wholesome influence is provided by most Friends. The reading of the Scripture of truth is encouraged.

Ans. to 4th.—Friends are clear of the traffic in intoxicants as a beverage, except in one instance, and also clear of its use, with the same exception. They do not sell their grain knowingly for the manufacture of liquor, or rent their property for such purposes. They endeavor to exert a temperance influence in their neighborhood. They discourage the use of tobacco, though not entirely clear therein. They are careful of attending places of unprofitable diversion or of demoralizing tendencies.

22. Then adjourned until 2 o'clock this afternoon.

THIRD-DAY AFTERNOON.

23. The 18th of Ninth month, at the time appointed, the Meeting convened.

Ans. to 5th.—The necessities of the poor are inspected, and assistance extended so far as circumstances permit. The school education of their children is encouraged.

Ans. to 6th.—We endeavor to maintain a faithful testimony in favor of a free gospel ministry, and bear a testimony against oaths, military service, clandestine trade and lotteries.

Ans. to 7th.—Friends are mostly careful to live within the bounds of their circumstances and not to involve themselves beyond their ability to manage, endeavoring to be just in their dealings and punctual in complying with their engagements.

Ans. to 8th.—When violations of our vital testimonies have become known care has generally been extended for the restoration of the offender to correct living and fellowship in the society, though perhaps not always as promptly as would be best.

Ans. to 9th.—We endeavor to give our children and those under our care the best opportunities for an education our surroundings and circumstances will allow. We have no schools under the care of Friends.

Ans. to 10th.—The queries have all been read and answered as directed.

Ans. to 11th.—No Meetings have been established and none discontinued.

24. The committee having charge of the dining hall made the following satisfactory report. The chairman is authorized to draw on the treasurer for \$25.60, amount due him as shown by its report. The committee is continued and directed to report next year.

25. The librarian made the following report, which is satisfactory, and he is continued. The clerk is directed to issue an order on our treasurer in favor of Abel Mills for \$3.97, amount due as shown by his report.

26. To settle with the treasurer and ascertain what amount of funds will be required to be raised the ensuing year, also present the name of a suitable person to serve as treasurer, we appoint Jos. Hartley, Benjamin Coale, Geo. W. Bingham, Henry K. Smith, Rosanna Wilson, Mary Pilkington, Thomas D. Tomlinson, and Thos. H. Trueblood, who are to report to a future session.

27. The Meeting authorizes their librarian to distribute, gratuitously, copies of Discipline for the use of such persons as may apply, with a view of becoming members of our society.

28. Blue River Quarterly Meeting presents statistical reports from all of its subordinate Meetings except Chicago and East Jordan Executive Meeting. Prairie Grove Quarter has failed to produce any. The clerk is directed to procure, if possible, the reports from the Meeting not heard from, in time for publishing in our minutes.

29. The librarian is directed to have five hundred properly prepared statistical blanks printed. Also directed to furnish each Monthly and Executive Meeting annually two of these blanks to be filled, one to be retained by the Meeting for future reference, and the other to be sent with their reports to the Quarterly Meetings to be forwarded by them to the Yearly Meeting.

30. Then adjourned until 2 o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

FOURTH-DAY AFTERNOON.

31. The 19th of Ninth month, at the hour adjourned to, the Meeting convened.

32. The committee in the interest of F. D. S. made the following report, which was satisfactory, and is continued and directed to report next year.

33. The Meeting at this time took up the report of the Philanthropic Labor committee, and read to the conclusion of the report on gambling and kindred vices.

34. The following Friends have been very acceptably with us, producing minutes of unity from their respective Meetings.

35. Lydia H. Price, a minister with a minute from Birmingham Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at West Chester, Pennsylvania, Seventh month, 28th, 1888. Endorsed by Concord Quarterly Meeting, held at Concord, Delaware county, Pennsylvania, Seventh month, 31st, 1888.

36. Phebe Griffith, a member with a minute from Birmingham Monthly Meeting, held at West Chester, Pennsylvania, Seventh month, 28th, 1888; companion to Lydia H. Price.

37. Samuel N. Smith, a minister, and Sally Smith, his wife, an elder, with a minute from Greenfield and Neversink Monthly Meeting, held at Neversink, N. Y., Eighth month, 21st, 1888.

38. Then adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

FIFTH-DAY MORNING.

39. The 20th of Ninth month, near the time adjourned to, the Meeting convened.

40. The reading of the reports presented by the committee on Philanthropic Labor were resumed at this time and action taken thereon.

41. Having finished the reading of the report of the committee on Philanthropic Labor, together with the reports of each of the sub-committees, the Meeting approved their action, and the recommendations of the general committee, and authorized it to publish in leaflet form such laws upon the subject of gambling and kindred vices as it may think advisable. The reports are to be placed upon our records, with the exception of letters accompanying the report on Indian affairs, and including printed letters presented but not read.

42. A communication from the Meeting of Ministers and Elders, asking that the answers to the queries of that Meeting be printed with our minutes hereafter, was read and united with.

43. The Meeting then adjourned to 2 o'clock this afternoon.

FIFTH-DAY AFTERNOON.

44. The 20th of Ninth month, at the time adjourned to, the Meeting convened.

45. The committee to settle with the treasurer made the following report, which was satisfactory, and Amos B. Wilson is accordingly appointed treasurer for the ensuing year.

46. The clerk is directed to inform the Quarterly Meetings of their respective quotas of Yearly Meeting fund and request them to forward to our treasurer prior to our next annual gathering.

47. The committee in the interest of Isolated Friends and Literature made the following satisfactory report. It is continued and directed to report next year.

48. The visiting committee made the following report which was satisfactory. It is continued and directed to report next year.

49. The committee in the interest of Isolated Friends and Literature is directed to complete the list of names of isolated members presented in the report of the visiting committee, also to act with similar committees appointed by other Yearly Meetings.

50. Blue River Quarterly Meeting by its reports directs its treasurer to pay the treasurer of the Yearly Meeting its quota of Yearly Meeting fund, \$247.50.

51. Prairie Grove reports they have instructed Benj. F. Nichols to pay their quota of Yearly Meeting fund (\$202.50) to our treasurer.

52. Prairie Grove Quarter forwards a corrected list for publication, of the clerks and correspondents, also the time and places of holding their various meetings.

53. The clerks inform the Meeting that they have attended to all the business entrusted to them last year.

54. The treasurer is authorized to pay to Benj. F. Nichols the sum of \$13.50, money advanced by him for the use of the committee on Philanthropic Labor in Third month, 1887. It having expended in that year \$30, and Blue River Quarter having paid its percentage of said amount, \$16.50. The Meeting directs the clerk to add the amount, \$13.50, to the amount to be raised by Prairie Grove Quarterly Meeting.

55. The minutes of the Representative committee were read and action taken thereon so far as concerns this body.

56. The recommendation of the Representative committee in regard to appointing a committee to consider the subject on page 19 of our Yearly Meeting minutes of last year, entitled "Confirmation of Birthright Members," was approved, and the following named Friends appointed to consider the subject contained therein and report their judgment next year: Jno. W. Plummer, Ann E. Hogue, Thos. H. Trueblood, Mary G. Smith, Isaiah Lightner, Lydia K. Penrose, Elwood P. Cooper, Jas. W. Heacock, Benj. Bedell, and Elizabeth W. Mills.

57. A memorial from Blue River Monthly Meeting concerning Chas. Brooks, endorsed by Blue River Quarterly Meeting and approved by the Representative committee, was read. The clerk is directed to sign it on behalf of the Meeting for publication with our reports.

58. To fill the vacancy in the Representative committee caused by the death of John H. Mills, Thos. W. Woodnutt is appointed.

59. The Representative committee recommend that the essay entitled, Music, written by Thos. E. Hogue, be printed with the minutes, also have 3,500 printed in leaflet form and placed in the hands of our librarian for gratuitous distribution.

60. The committee to prepare replies to the epistles received, produced five, which were read and after some slight changes directed to the care of Allen J. Flitcraft, who is to select from the number presented and direct to the Meetings that have not already been addressed, and present to the clerk for his signature on behalf of the Meeting.

61. The committee on Exercises presented the following report, which was satisfactory. It is directed to the care of the Revising committee.

62. The business of the Meeting being finished, with thankful hearts for the manifestation of the Divine presence, which has enabled us to transact our business in much harmony, we now conclude.

OLIVER WILSON, *Clerk.*

↔REPORTS.↔

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO SETTLE WITH TREASURER.

The committee to settle with the treasurer find his accounts correct as per accompanying statement. It recommends \$350 to be raised for next year, and proposes Amos B. Wilson for treasurer.

On behalf of committee.

JOSEPH HARTLEY.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

9th-mo., 15, 1887.	Balance at last report.....	\$482.17
1st-mo., 13, 1888.	Received of Treas. F.-D. S. Association.....	13.15
9th-mo., 17, " "	Ex-Treas. Women's Meeting.....	11.05
" 18, " "	Treas. Blue River Quarterly Meeting.....	237.27
" 19, " "	Treas. Prairie Grove Q. M.....	202.50
" 19, " "	a Friend's donation.....	5.00
Total amount received.....		\$951.14

11th-mo., 21, 1887.	Paid Committee on Printing.....	\$132.50
9th-mo., 15, " "	Trustees for repairs, etc.....	27.75
9th-mo., 16, " "	Com. on Dining Hall for repairs..	5.00
9th-mo., 16, " "	Librarian.....	1.36
12th-mo., 11, " "	Treas. Genoa Monthly Meeting....	100.00
5th-mo., 14, 1888.	Com. on F.-D. School Interests....	40.00
7th-mo., 20, " "	Com. on Philanthropic Labor....	40.00
9th-mo., 18, " "	Com. on Dining H., improvements	75.60
9th-mo., 18, " "	Trustees for repairs, etc.....	35.23
	Treas.'s exp. (drafts, money orders)	.65

Total amount paid.....\$458.09

Balance in treasury.....\$493.05

AMOS B. WILSON, *Treasurer.*

REPORT OF DINING HALL COMMITTEE.

The committee to have in care the dining hall, and to make necessary improvements therein, reports the work done as nearly as it could ascertain the Meeting's wants, at a cost of \$75.60.

On behalf of the committee.

OLIVER P. MILLS, *Chairman.*

Paid for lumber.....	\$39.76
" nails and hardware, etc.....	3.44
" carpenter work.....	18.00
" stove and pipe.....	14.40

\$75.60

By appropriation.....50.00

Balance due committee.....\$25.60

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PHILANTHROPIC LABOR.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—Much later in the year than was expected, we succeeded in dividing the membership of this committee among the sub-committees in accordance with the personal preference of each.

Committee on Corrupt Literature and Social Impurity.

Sarah A. R. Canby, Winfield, Iowa.
 Hannah M. Russell, Winfield, Iowa.
 Sarah P. Wilson, West Branch, Iowa.
 Alcinda Wood, Hoopeston, Illinois.
 Morris A. Wilson, Magnolia, Illinois.
 Mary C. White, Bloomington, Illinois.
 Mary J. Law, Chicago, Illinois.
 Elma L. Brown, 112 Honore St., Chicago, Illinois.
 Mary G. Smith, Chairman, Hoopeston, Illinois.

Committee on Gambling and Kindred Vices.

Geo. D. John, Penrose, Whiteside county, Illinois.
 Fred T. Hartley, Centerdale, Iowa.
 John T. Packer, Marietta, Iowa.
 Griffith E. Coale, Holder, Illinois.
 Allen J. Flitcraft, Chairman, Chicago, Illinois.

Committee on Indian Affairs.

Thos. H. Trueblood, Hitchcock's, Washington Co., Indiana.
 Hannah S. Mills, Mt. Palatine, Putnam county, Illinois.
 Isaiah Lightner, Matson, Nebraska.
 Thos. D. Tomlinson, Marietta, Iowa.
 Sarah E. Cooper, Winfield, Henry county, Iowa.
 Joshua L. Mills, Chairman, Mt. Palatine, Putnam Co., Ills.

Committee on Peace and Arbitration.

Caleb Russell, Winfield, Henry county, Iowa.
 Lowry Trueblood, Salem, Washington county, Indiana.
 Edith Baynes, Salem, Washington county, Indiana.
 Lauretta H. Nichols, State Centre, Iowa.
 Elijah Hogue, West Liberty, Iowa.
 Chas. A. Lukens, Hoopeston, Illinois.
 Jos. L. Truman, Genoa, Nebraska.
 Elwood Trueblood, Chairman, Salem, Indiana.

Committee on Prison Affairs.

Thos. W. Woodnutt, 115 Kinzie St., Chicago.
 Henry Atherton, Mt. Palatine, Illinois.
 Edward Coale, Holder, Illinois.
 J. W. Plummer, 75 Maple St., Chicago.
 Theodore P. Marsh, Chairman, Marshalltown, Iowa.

Committee on Temperance Interests.

T. W. Cooper, Winfield, Iowa.
 James W. Heacock, Canton, Indiana.
 Mary N. Overman, Salem, Indiana.
 Mary A. Nichols, State Centre, Iowa.
 B. Alice Mills, State Centre, Iowa.
 Lillie Edsal, Marietta, Iowa.
 Josephine Hollingsworth, Downey, Iowa.
 Harriett Whitacre, Downey, Iowa.
 Susau Y. Truman, Genoa, Nebraska.
 Lydia K. Penrose, Sterling, Illinois.
 Catherine A. Wilson, Penrose, Illinois.
 Martha A. John, Penrose, Illinois.
 Edgar Smith, Hoopeston, Illinois.
 Martha M. Wilson, Mt. Palatine, Illinois.
 R. Eva Mills, Mt. Palatine, Illinois.
 Abraham H. Brown, Holder, Illinois.
 Elenora Coale, Holder, Illinois.
 Sarah A. Coale, Holder, Illinois.
 Adelaide Foulke, Emery, Illinois.
 Horace G. Welch, Chairman, Downey, Iowa.

The notice required by minute of last year was sent to the chairman of the executive committee of the Union for Philanthropic Labor in due season, also a list of our local meeting quotas of the printed proceedings of the late sessions of the Union. These quotas, we are informed, have been sent to each Meeting in care of a resident member of this committee.

Our quota of the expenses of the Union was forty dollars (\$40.00), for which sum the chairman of this committee drew on the Yearly Meeting's treasurer, sending the draft to the executive committee for its endorsement.

An interesting and we believe valuable meeting of the Union, consisting of six sessions, was held in Philadelphia, Sixth-month, 1st and 2d, of the present year, in which we had no part either by delegates, reports or papers—largely owing, perhaps, to unusual and pressing duties resting upon our chairman through the death of a business partner, preventing him from giving attention to this subject in season for the meetings.

A meeting of the executive committee of the Union has been called to meet at Waynesville, Ohio, at the time of holding Indiana Yearly Meeting this year. Attendance by our members of that committee, or participation through reports or suggestions, is much desired, and if practicable should be given.

During the year past we have accomplished but little work, owing in part to the failure to promptly organize the sub-com-

mittees and formulate methods of work for them—a failure that seemed unavoidable under existing conditions.

Acting in the name of the Illinois Peace Society, members of our committee prepared petitions and letters to the Governors of Illinois and New York in behalf of our testimony against capital punishment, that to New York being upon request of the President of the Universal Peace Union, Alfred H. Love.

Aside from this action, we believe nothing but routine work was accomplished by the general committee since its appointment last year.

In presenting the reports from the sub-committees we renewedly realize the peculiar difficulties that attend us in all attempts to do philanthropic work through organizations or committees of our own, except so far as we may influence the public or official action through the press, by petition or individual action in the name of the Society.

With no members able to devote their time uninterruptedly to such work, no money in our treasury with which to enable any to do so, and separated in committee membership by hundreds of miles from Indiana to Nebraska, and seldom meeting each other except in our annual gatherings, our power for work seems very weak in view of the much to be done. Without wishing to change the present form of organization with a general committee and sub-committees on special lines of labor, we are willing to advise that members of each of these sub-committees be chosen from each Meeting, and that these members in each Meeting be recognized as jointly having control of the full work in the limits of the Meeting—leaving the chairman of each sub-committee and his fellow members of that committee in charge of the work especially assigned them in the general field, and the full committee and its chairman in service as at present. This will not in any way lessen the general work, and will, we hope, increase the attention within each Meeting, to the possible opportunities, that are within its reach. In connection with this change we offer the following names for appointment as members of our committee: Edward T. Price, Mary E. Poulson, Eliz. H. Coale, Clarkson Wood, E. Anna Wilson, Hannah A. Plummer, Isaac Lukens, Chalkley John, Nathan F. Smith, Joseph Webster and David Brown.

We present the following reports from sub-committees:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON CORRUPT LITERATURE AND SOCIAL IMPURITY.

Jonathan W. Plummer, Chairman.

Owing to various causes this branch of the committee has not been able to do much practical work, we think largely for want of a knowledge of the enormity of the traffic and methods of checking it. Investigation has been made in some localities, and questions asked, evincing a deep thought,

and plans are slowly maturing for future action. Members and others have been advised to keep a watchful care as to the spread of impure literature, and protest has been made publicly and privately.

We would suggest the holding of Mothers' Meetings in each city, town or neighborhood where a member of our committee resides, thereby eliciting the mother's interest in a more earnest way to this field of work.

We earnestly recommend the exclusion from families, of such newspapers as admit impure stories and tales of murder, arousing immoral thought or feeling inconsistent with our testimonies in behalf of purity and peace.

It is evident that there is a field of labor for this department of the committee, and we feel that comparatively few are aroused to the true condition before us.

Trusting that the Yearly Meeting will enter into a feeling sense of our obligation to our youth and society at large, we remain, your friend,

MARY G. SMITH, *Chairman*.

We believe there would be much advantage if the committee on Corrupt Literature and Social Impurity could, through correspondence with active organizations outside our membership, and other parties, learn whatever is to be known regarding the source and volume of corrupt literature and the laws of the States and United States for its suppression, with a view to placing needful portions of this information, through the general committee, in proper form before our membership and the public, and open the way for co-operation of our general and local committees with other organizations engaged in similar work, taking care to do our part of the work in the spirit of our religious faith and so as to strengthen our testimonies in behalf of peaceable action and Christ-like feeling toward all men. We think good would result from procuring and placing in the hands of the young the best literature in leaflet form upon the subject of personal purity, and having, as opportunity offers, addresses within the limits of each Meeting upon this subject, from prudent and capable persons who have made it a study.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON GAMBLING AND KINDRED VICES.

Jonathan W. Plummer, Chairman of Committee on Philanthropic Labor:

DEAR FRIEND.—The sub-committee appointed at the last session of Illinois Yearly Meeting has not been unmindful of its appointment, although the way has not been open to do what should be done to stem the tide of the increasing tendencies toward gambling and kindred vices. All through the limits of this Yearly Meeting there probably was never a period when so much of the gambling or betting spirit was manifest as now, or, it may be that because our minds are more directed toward this evil its magnitude impresses us more forcibly; certain it is that there is prevalent to an alarming extent this great evil. In large cities, small towns and rural districts there is much of what may be termed petty gambling in connection with what is called the national game of base ball. During the last year business has called some of our committee throughout the state of Illinois and elsewhere to a considerable extent, and our observation has been that many persons are betting and thereby winning or losing, as they term it, on the result of base ball games. Not uncommon is it to hear persons

say, "What did you make or lose on the game to-day?" This is only one of many forms of gambling. We feel that anything which becomes an almost universal means of gambling should be discouraged and discountenanced; since all action is preceded by thought, and expressions uttered indicate or may develop thought, we should be very careful in our language; let us begin at home with ourselves and our children by abstaining from, and teaching our children to avoid, all such expressions as "I bet I can do this or that," or, "I bet this is so," or, "I bet that will occur." Thoughtlessly a person may remark, "I bet it will rain to-day," when he does not intend to convey the idea of betting at all. Much of our conversation carelessly expressed may develop thoughts in the minds of the youth which we scarcely realize; it is therefore incumbent upon us all to be very guarded in our forms of expression. Let each one of us bear a practical testimony in "plainness of speech" and truthfulness of expression.

From time immemorial gambling has ruined the lives of men and broken the hearts of women. In Chicago, in spite of our reform administration, it is estimated there are at last twenty open gambling places, but what is possibly doing as much harm as these places of iniquity is the petty gambling in various forms; gambling is a curse whether conducted through a broker on the Board of Trade, by the attendant of a county fair betting on horse races, by the little boy on the play-ground who plays his first game of marbles "for keeps," by the person who bets on the result of an election, be he republican, democrat or prohibitionist, or playing a game of chance at the faro table in the lowest dive in a large city. While it may be difficult to accurately define gambling, any person knows when he has crossed the line which separates legitimate amusement from his first step toward this terrible vice.

Gambling in whatever form it may exist is an endeavor to obtain value or property without rendering a just equivalent. It is acquiring property without working for it. Its influence is bad. It makes men idlers and loafers, and when it once gets a firm hold upon a man he becomes a useless member of society. It produces profanity and obscenity. The man who has lost his last dollar at the gaming table will curse his luck, his fate, his God. Habitual gamblers are usually drinking men, because in order to bear their losses they resort to alcoholic stimulants.

Gamblers are sensual, by living a life of the imagination their passions are stimulated by the lack of realism in their lives. Wherever you find a gambling resort you will find a crowd of abandoned women waiting to absorb the ill-gotten gains. After the game is finished the so-called rich young members of gambling clubs frequently make a tour of the most degraded houses of the city.

Gamblers are cruel; they will take the last dollar from men upon whom are dependent families. The chronic gambler will pawn the blanket from his wife's bed, and his children's clothing. Young men who have lost their all at the gaming table sometimes seek to save themselves by theft and forgery. It is a vice that stops not short of murder and suicide. How often has the shriek of death penetrated the stillness of the midnight air when some miserable human being has slain a fellow creature or taken his own life because of frenzy produced by his losses.

Let us picture in our minds the course of a young man who allows himself to dabble in this vice:—At first he puts up a small stake just to make the game interesting. Then we find him a regular visitor at some gambling den staking all he possesses on the turn of a card; watch his eyes fixed intently on the game—his every nerve at the highest tension,—his thoughts concentrated upon that which means either poverty or wealth; finally he becomes a professional gambler, and, with the cold brutality of a demon, he destroys the lives of all who are seduced by his persuasions. In a fit of rage he commits suicide, or else, it may be, murders his unfortunate victim; thenceforward he becomes a hunted criminal. All this miserable wreck of

humanity once possessed a good name; was one time some mother's darling, and before whom there was a bright life of honor, respectability and usefulness. Surely such a man has fallen far short of the purpose for which he was created.

The committee feels it right to urge active work in this cause. We have in the statute books of Illinois ample laws upon this evil, (a copy of which is hereto appended.) Shall we not use our influence in every possible way to have these laws executed throughout the limits of this state? And those of our committee who may be residents of other states see to it that appropriate action is taken to stamp out this great evil?

Extracted from the revised statutes of the state of Illinois, page 630, Chap. 46, Sec. 85:

Betting on Elections. Whoever bets or wagers any money, property, or other valuable thing, upon the result of an election which may be held under the constitution or laws of this state, or bets or wagers money, property, or other valuable thing, upon the number of votes which may be given to any person at an election, or upon who will receive the greatest number of votes at an election; or agrees to pay any other person any money, property, or other valuable thing, in the event that an election shall result in one way, or in the event that any person shall or shall not be elected, or shall receive a greater number of votes than others, upon conviction thereof, he shall be fined in a sum not exceeding \$1,000, or imprisoned in the county jail not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court.

PAGE 439. CHAP. 38, SEC. 126. *Gaming.*—Whoever shall play for money, or other valuable thing, at any game with cards, dice, checks, or at billiards, or with any other article, instrument or thing whatsoever, which may be used for the purpose of playing or betting upon, or winning or losing money, or any other thing or article of value, or shall bet on any game others may be playing, shall be fined not exceeding \$100, and not less than \$10.

SEC. 127. *Gaming House.*—Whoever keeps a common gaming house, or in any building, booth, yard, garden, boat or float, by him or his agent used and occupied, procures or permits any person to frequent, or to come together to play for money or other valuable thing, at any game, or keeps or suffers to be kept any tables or other apparatus, for the purpose of playing at any game or sport, for money or any other valuable thing, or knowingly rents any such place for such purposes, shall, upon conviction, for the first offense be fined not less than \$100, and for the second offense be fined not less than \$500, and be confined in the county jail not less than six months, and for the third offense shall be fined not less than \$500, and be imprisoned in the penitentiary not less than two years nor more than five years.

SEC. 128. *Gaming in Tavern.*—Every tavern keeper, common victualer or other person, keeping or suffering to be kept, in any place occupied by him, any implements such as are used in gaming, in order that the same may, for hire, gain or reward, be used for the purpose of amusement, who suffers any implement of that kind to be used upon any part of his premises, for the purpose of gaming for money or other property, or who suffers any person to play at an unlawful game or sport therein, shall for the first offense be fined \$100, and for the second offense be fined not less than \$500, and be confined in the county jail not less than six months, and for the third offense shall be fined not less than \$500, and be imprisoned in the penitentiary not less than two nor more than five years, and in either case he shall forfeit his license, and shall not again be licensed as a tavern keeper for one year from his conviction.

SEC. 128 A. *Gaming in Saloons, Minors.* *Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, Represented in the General Assembly,* That all saloons or places where intoxicating liquors are sold, in which minors are permitted to play with cards, dice, balls, or any other articles or device used in gaming, are hereby declared to be disorderly houses. Every proprie-

tor or keeper of such saloons or places where such gaming or playing shall take place, shall for the first offense be subjected to a fine of not exceeding fifty dollars, and for any subsequent offense, to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars, or to imprisonment not exceeding thirty days for the first offense, and sixty days for any subsequent offense.

SEC. 129. *Decoys.*—If any one shall, through invitation or device, prevail on any person to visit any room, building, booth, yard, garden, boat or float kept for the purpose of gambling, or prostitution or fornication, he shall, on conviction thereof, for the first offense be fined not less than \$10 nor more than \$100, and for the second offense he may be fined not less than \$100, nor more than \$300, or may be confined in the county jail not exceeding six months, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 130. *Gambling in Grain, Etc.*—Whoever contracts to have or give to himself or another the option to sell or buy, at a future time, any grain, or other commodity, stock of any railroad or other company, or gold, or forestalls the market by spreading false rumors to influence the price of commodities therein, or corners the market or attempts to do so in relation to any of such commodities, shall be fined not less than \$10 nor more than \$1,000, or confined in the county jail not exceeding one year, or both; and all contracts made in violation of this section shall be considered gambling contracts and shall be void.

SEC. 131. *Gaming Contract.*—All promises, notes, bills, bonds, covenants, contracts, agreements, judgments, mortgages or other securities or conveyances made, given, granted, drawn or entered into, or executed by any person whatsoever, where the whole or any part of the consideration thereof, shall be for any money, property or other valuable thing, won by any gaming, or playing at cards, dice, or any other game or games, or by betting on the side or hands of any person gaming, or by wager or bet upon any race, fight, pastime, sport, lot, chance, casualty, election or unknown or contingent event whatever, or for the reimbursing or paying any money or property knowingly lent or advanced at the time and place of such play or bet to any person or persons so gaming or betting, or that shall, during such play or betting, so play or bet, shall be void and of no effect.

SEC. 132. *Losses by Game.*—Any person, who shall, at any time or sitting, by playing at cards, dice or any other game or games, or by betting on the side or hands of such as do game, or by any wager or bet upon any race, fight, pastime, sport, lot, chance, casualty, election or unknown or contingent event whatever, lose to any person, so playing or betting, any sum of money, or other valuable thing, amounting in the whole to the sum of \$10, and shall pay or deliver the same or any part thereof, the person so losing and paying or delivering the same, shall be at liberty to sue for and recover the money, goods, or other valuable thing, so lost and paid or delivered, or any part thereof, or the full value of the same, by action of debt, replevin, assumpsit or trover, or proceeding in chancery, from the winner thereof, with costs, in any court of competent jurisdiction. In any such action at law it shall be sufficient for the plaintiff to declare generally as in actions of debt or assumpsit for money had and received by the defendant to the plaintiff's use, or as in actions of replevin or trover upon a supposed finding and the detaining or converting the property of the plaintiff to the use of the defendant, whereby an action hath accrued to the plaintiff according to the form of this act, without setting forth the special matter. In case the person who shall lose such money or other thing, as aforesaid, shall not, within six months, really and bona fide, and without covin or collusion, sue, and with effect prosecute, for such money, or other thing, by him lost and paid or delivered, as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for any person to sue for and recover treble the value of the money, goods, chattels and other things, with costs of suit, by special action on the case, against such winner aforesaid; one-half to use of the county, and the other to the person suing.

SEC. 133. *Premises Liable for Losses.*—If any person shall rent or lease to another any building or premises to be used or occupied, in whole or in part, as a common gaming house, or place for persons to come together to play for money or other valuable thing, or bet upon any game or chance, or shall knowingly permit the same to be so used or occupied, such building or premises so used or occupied shall be held liable for, and may be sold to pay any judgment that may be recovered under the preceding section. Proceedings may be had to subject the same to the payment of any such judgment recovered which remains unpaid, or any part thereof, either before or after execution shall issue against the property of the person against whom such judgment shall have been recovered, and when execution shall issue against the property so leased or rented, the officer shall proceed to satisfy said execution out of the building or premises so leased or occupied as aforesaid; *provided*, that if such building or premises belong to a minor or other person under guardianship, the guardian or conservator of such person, and his real and personal property, shall be held liable instead of such ward, and his property shall be subject to all the provisions of this section relating to the collection of said judgment.

Signed on behalf of the committee,

ALLEN J. FLITCRAFT, *Chairman.*

CHICAGO, ILL., 9th-mo. 13, 1888.

We would recommend the preparation of suitable leaflets by the committee on Gambling and Kindred Vices and distribution by the committees of our local Meetings.

The subject of Indian affairs, is necessarily confined to the action of the committee on that subject and largely in connection with the general committee of the seven Yearly Meetings. We feel desirous of endorsing the suggestion of our friend, Isaiah Lightner, that these committees should do what they can to sustain the Indian department of our government in all efforts to civilize and make our Indian population self-dependent as rapidly as is practicable, and are inclined to the belief that the movement made to induce the Government to place Matrons on the reservations of the more advanced tribes, with a view to the education of the Indian women in the duties of housekeeping and home-making, is an important step in the right direction. As a test of the value of such work we recommend co-operation with those Yearly Meetings that approve of this course, in furnishing a Matron for the Santee Sioux agency and the payment of our quota of the expense thus incurred.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

MT. PALATINE, Illinois, 9th-mo. 5, 1888.

Jonathan W. Plummer, Chairman:

DEAR FRIEND.—It was our painful duty, thee will remember (in our last report), to have to inform the Yearly Meeting of the death of our beloved friend, Cyrus Blackburn, our representative on the executive committee of the seven Yearly Meetings.

After careful thought and advice, the committee were united in asking our esteemed friend, Edward Stabler, Jr., of Baltimore, if he would be willing to represent us, which he kindly consented to do.

There seems to have nothing of importance transpired to give any open-

ing for work, except in the endeavor to induce the officials at Washington to appoint a Matron (as mentioned in last report). This they decline to do; not that they do not fully unite with the movement, but rather that they have no funds at their command to defray the expense. The executive committee having had frequent meetings and conferences upon the subject, both in committee and with the authorities and Commissioners of Indian Affairs at Washington, has finally concluded (if the Yearly Meeting approves) to make the effort to appoint and maintain a Matron at the Santee Sioux Indian agency, at the probable cost of \$1,200.00 for one year as an experiment; Philadelphia and Ohio Yearly Meetings declining to enter into the work, will of course make the financial weight much heavier than at first anticipated. Yet after, as we believe, having very fully and carefully weighed the matter, the committee is quite well united in its judgment, with the exception of Isaiah Lightner, whose long experience among the Indians entitles his views to great weight. His letter giving his views is herewith presented. But even from his standpoint we fail to see why our proposed work would not, in a great measure, be the nursery through which and by which his educational plan would ultimately accomplish great results; we think the two would go hand in hand, strengthening and building up these Indian communities to a still higher sphere of civilization. If the Yearly Meeting approves, it is proposed to get everything in readiness this fall and winter; ready for an early advance in the spring. Illinois Yearly Meeting's quota would probably be about \$80.00.

- We take pleasure also in presenting the following correspondence bearing upon the question of Matrons at the Agencies:

GOSHEN, LANCASTER COUNTY, PA. Fourth Month 9, 1888.

- ESTEEMED FRIEND:—When in Washington early in the first month attending the annual meeting of the Board of Indian Commissioners I called at thy seat in the house, but congress was not then in session. I fully expected to have visited Washington again ere this, but for nearly a month past have been too unwell to leave home or to attend to my correspondence.

Thee no doubt is aware our society, composed of seven Yearly Meetings, has been laboring earnestly in behalf of the Indians, although the Government has sadly hampered us to such an extent that we have had to give up all the agencies except one—the combined Santee Sioux, Flandreau, and Ponca, in Nebraska and Dakota.

As secretary of the convention of the seven Yearly Meetings, representing the society on Indian affairs, it has been my privilege to visit this agency three different times and to witness the rapid progress these people are making in civilization and the art of agriculture. While the men are availing themselves of the allotments made to them in severalty and are rapidly improving their homes—all having comfortable houses, wagons, farm implements, horses, and cattle—the women as a class are far behind the men.

For two years past we have been endeavoring to get the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to allow us a sufficient sum to employ a matron, at a salary of \$600 or \$800, whose duty it will be reside on the agency and visit the Indian women in their homes, encourage and instruct them in their domestic duties—how to keep their houses neat and clean, to bake bread, and how to cut and make their own garments, etc.

This movement the Commissioner has highly approved, but has expressed his regret that no appropriations heretofore made could be diverted to the employment of such a personage. I learn with pleasure that thee is a member of the House Indian Committee, and my object in this writing is to ask thy aid and influence in getting an appropriation inserted in the annual Indian appropriation bill for the pay of a matron such as I alluded to.

If health permits I will be glad to accompany a committee of our society

to Washington shortly, and will be glad to have an interview with your committee.

With this I will mail thee a copy of the minutes of our late convention, also a report of a visit of my friend Joseph J. Janney and myself to the agency two years ago.

With kind regards, I am, thy assured friend.

Hon. Smedley Darlington.

L. K. BROWN.
Per A.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR;
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
WASHINGTON, April 18, 1888.

SIR:—I have the honor to submit herewith a letter from L. K. Brown, of Pennsylvania, received through Hon. Smedley Darlington.

Mr. Brown is a member of and secretary for the Society of Friends in his locality, who are interested in efforts to promote Indian civilization. He calls attention to the fact that while the male portion of a tribe may, through the assistance of the Government, be rapidly advancing, in intelligence, mechanical skill, and general fitness for industrial and agricultural pursuits, and for taking advantage of their opportunities to reach a higher plane of life, the females, except a few of the younger ones who may have attended some Indian industrial training school, are left to plod on in ignorance of even the lesser essential acquirements of the mother of a home, such as cleanliness, good management, and the advantages and comforts of the household methods of civilization.

This state of affairs is well known to this office and to all who are familiar with Indian affairs, and I consider that it is a great hinderance to the present prosperity and permanent advancement of nearly all Indian tribes; and as the character of the rising generation depends almost entirely on the example, teaching, and general influence for good of the mother, some effort should be made to reach the children in this way, and thus commence the work of civilization as early in life as possible.

I therefore, as Mr. Brown says, highly approve of his suggestion that matrons be appointed to teach the Indian women in their homes, encouraging and instructing them in their domestic duties, showing them how to keep their houses neat and clean, to make bread, cut and make their own garments, etc., and to rescue them as far as possible from the life of mental and physical drudgery to which they have been hitherto held by the customs of their people.

I have been unable so far to accomplish this for want of funds applicable, and therefore now respectfully recommend that Congress be asked to provide in the act making appropriations for the Indian Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1889, for the employment of five matrons, at a salary each of \$720 per annum, in all \$3,600; said matrons to reside at such agencies as you may designate, and devote their entire time to visiting the Indian women at their homes and instructing them as above indicated; and, as it is probable that the act referred to may already have been fully considered and prepared by Congress, I inclose herewith a draught of an item to be inserted therein, and suggest that, if it meets with your approval, it be submitted to the Committee of the Senate on Indian Affairs, together with my reasons for believing that it deserves the favorable consideration of Congress.

Respectfully,

J. D. C. ATKINS, *Commissioner.*

The Secretary of the Interior.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
WASHINGTON, May 3, 1888.

SIR:—I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a communication

of the 18th ultimo from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, together with the draught of an item which he recommends for insertion in the Indian appropriation bill, providing for the employment of five matrons at a compensation of \$720 per annum each, whose duty it shall be to reside at such Indian agencies as may be designated by the Department for the purpose of visiting Indian women at their homes and instructing them in domestic affairs.

As the work of making allotments of land to the Indians progresses many of the adult women of the families who have already taken or who may hereafter take up their abode in the habitations of civilization will need instruction in the proper management of household affairs, and those who still hesitate will require the kindly persuasion, influence, and intelligent direction of competent and discreet persons to encourage them to break away from their habits and customs of barbarism.

I think good work can and will be accomplished by the employment of such persons, and therefore respectfully recommend that the small appropriation requested for the purpose may be made.

Very respectfully,

WM. F. VILAS, *Secretary.*

The President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

ITEM.—To enable the Secretary of the Interior to employ five matrons, at a rate of compensation not to exceed seven hundred and twenty dollars per annum, whose duty it shall be to reside at such Indian agencies as he may designate, and visit Indian women at their homes to instruct them in domestic affairs, three thousand six hundred dollars.

All of which is very respectfully submitted.

JOSHUA L. MILLS, *On Behalf Committee.*

We feel glad to call attention to the report of the committee on Peace and Arbitration, with reference to the successful efforts in behalf of arbitrating difficulties between neighbors within the limits of Blue River Monthly Meeting, and to encourage similar efforts within the limits of each local Meeting so far as necessity or opportunity may hereafter exist. In the broader aspect of this subject continued watchful care to use all right opportunities to affect legislative and national bodies, by petition, and public opinion, through the platform or the press, is earnestly advised.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PEACE AND ARBITRATION.

To J. W. Plummer, Chairman of Committee on Philanthropic Labor.

DEAR FRIEND:—As chairman of the sub-committee on Peace and Arbitration, I submit the following report and suggestions: Owing to the wide separation of members of the committee anything like a concert of action seemed impossible; what has been done, has been through individual effort, mostly in endeavors to create a healthy public sentiment, by distributing literature bearing on these subjects and urging, on all proper occasions, the peaceful settlement of all individual and local differences. One Monthly Meeting, through the influence of members of the committee, has had a committee on Arbitration appointed, which has rendered some valuable service.

A like course might be advisable in other Monthly Meeting neighborhoods where one or two judicious friends by timely advice and aid, would frequently prevent expensive litigations. Though our efforts may seem

trivial, yet when we reflect that it is by the aggregation of little efforts, that great results are produced, we are encouraged to work on in our feeble way, doing that which is nearest, without stopping to look for results. And we have been encouraged and made glad as we have witnessed the growth and advancement of the sublime doctrine of peace promulgated by the Prince of Peace, and held so dear by Friends. For no one of the centuries since their promulgation has witnessed a wider recognition of these truths than the one just passed.

First among these hopeful indications we may mention the visit of the English Peace Commission to this country bearing a memorial to our government, numerously signed by distinguished Englishmen favoring the appointment of a high Court of Arbitration, and the favorable action taken on the subject by our government leads us to hope that all differences hereafter between the two countries may in the future be settled without an appeal to arms. Second to this and not less in importance is a bill passed by Congress and approved 5th-mo. 24, authorizing the President to invite the several Governments of Mexico, Central and South America, to join the United States in a conference, to be held in the city of Washington, some time in the ensuing year, for the purpose of discussing and recommending for adoption to their respective governments, some plan of arbitration for the settlement of all disagreements and disputes that may hereafter arise between the several countries; and also to foster and encourage peaceful commerce.

Immediately following this are two notable bills now pending before Congress, which have received favorable readings. One recommending a like negotiation between the United States and the Governments of Great Britain and France; the other a concurrent resolution including all nations with whom our Government may have diplomatic relations. About the same time, and as if answering back this voice of peace, the Government of Brazil passed an act peacefully liberating her two millions of slaves. And from over the waters comes the earnest words of the young Emperor of Germany commending the arts of peace as the only sure basis of a nation's strength, and disavowing most solemnly his imputed inclination for war and military glory, which leads the friends of peace to hope that the clouds of war that hang over Europe may soon be dispelled, and that the great military despotism of the old world which blights the lives of millions may ere long be broken. Yet one of the most advanced steps taken in the cause of universal peace is that by the President of Swarthmore College who was the first to introduce in the curriculum of a college the important subject of peace and arbitration. May he be sustained and upheld in the high position he has taken and may his example be imitated by other institutions of learning all over the land. No reformation or progress can be permanent that has not for its basis a deep rooted conviction in the human mind. The spirit of war is in the world; it is instilled in the mind in the very nursery; it is fostered and encouraged in every stage of its development, affecting not only the individual mind, but the social and political fabric of which it is a part; if we would correct this and hasten the day of permanent and universal peace we must commence with the flexible mind of childhood and impress it at every step of its progress with that divine law, "Whatever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them." We shall thus lay the foundation of all true social and political science that will ultimately adjust in harmony all the conflicting interests of human society and hasten the day when peace shall cover the earth as the waters do the sea.

ELWOOD TRUEBLOOD, *Chairman.*

On prison affairs, we are glad to say that there has been a clearly recognizable advance in the direction of attention to

reformatory and preventive work by active workers in the field of penology. Our larger institutions for confinement of the dangerous classes are being more frequently and thoroughly inspected with a view to correcting abuses and adopting methods of control and rules of government most likely to restore self-respect, sense of responsibility and effort to regain and retain good character, upon the part of the prisoners, when restored to liberty.

Much attention is being given to work among dependent children with a view to taking them out of the drift toward criminal life and qualifying them for useful citizenship.

Among the organizations working to this end, in which our members have active interest, is the Illinois Industrial Training School for Boys, located at Norwood Park, Cook county, Illinois, under most excellent superintendence in the person of Ursula L. Harrison. During its brief existence of little more than one year, the school has received 179 boys and placed 63 in homes, leaving 116 now at the school, which is overcrowded and working under the great disadvantage of insufficient pecuniary support. This school is intended for boys between the ages of 6 and 14 years.

Another school in which a member of our committee is upon the board of control, is the orphanage branch of the Western Seaman's Bethel Prison Mission, located at Onarga, Illinois, under the care of a most untiring worker and earnest Christian man, W. D. A. Matthews. This orphanage cares for the younger children of prisoners, and while limited in its field of operations, is doing equally good work in proportion to the numbers cared for. This institution has bought the property it occupies and hopes to be able to meet the deferred payments as they come due, thro' the help of contributions from its friends.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PRISON AFFAIRS.

Jonathan W. Plummer, Chairman.

We are gratified to find much progress made in recent years, in the methods of treatment of the criminal classes; that year by year the old brutal ways are giving way to more rational and Christian methods. It is especially gratifying, as indicative of the reasons for this, to read the words of one who can speak from personal knowledge. "It is rare to find a Superintendent or teacher in a juvenile reformatory who is not a Christian man or woman." The more so, when we consider that many of the older criminals might perhaps have been led into better lives had the proper treatment for first offenses been used.

The weight of evidence and experience seems to be entirely on the side of the complete isolation so far as possible of the young offenders from the adult ones; to accomplish which, Reform Schools and Industrial Training Schools have been organized in many parts of our country, among which may be named the Illinois Industrial Training School for Boys at Norwood Park, Cook county, the Superintendent of which is a Christian lady who seems to be especially adapted to the work.

One great wrong and hardship resulting from the sentences of the law,

is the helpless condition in which the wives and children of condemned prisoners are so often left, deprived as they so often are, of their means of support. To aid in removing this trouble is the aim of the Home for Children of Prisoners at Onarga, Illinois, in both of which institutions members of our Society are personally interested. Also in the Home of Industry for Discharged Prisoners, at Chicago. It is always difficult for the man or woman just discharged from prison to find honest employment, and failing in this the way is easy to a continuance of the old life—to remedy this so far as possible is the object of the last named institution.

In Iowa we have the State Reform School doing a good work, but which will as time passes and experience increases, meet with still greater success. Also some individual effort meeting with more or less success.

We feel that Friends should encourage in every way that offers this branch of the work, believing that much more can be done for the reclamation of those young in years and crime, than for those older and more hardened.

As to the treatment of the criminal classes generally, one member reports the distribution near her home of religious and other tracts among the inmates of their jail and suggests that much good might be done by supplying prisoners in confinement with good wholesome reading, and the exclusion so far as possible, of that which is corrupting or sensational. Another friend suggests the propriety of keeping those not yet convicted of crime, but awaiting trial, isolated from those under sentence, urging that many an innocent man or woman may receive great moral injury from being forced to associate with the vicious.

Another friend who has given the subject much thought is of the opinion that the congregated method is wrong, excepting that those whose mutual influence may be beneficial, might be permitted to room or work together; that nothing but evil can result from the association together of the worthless classes. Also believes that time sentences should be modified, and would advocate the creation of Pardoning Boards to consider meritorious cases in order that those who have become truly penitent may be returned to home and a better life. Also calls attention to the good that can be accomplished by religious services in jails and like institutions conducted by outside persons, testifying from his own personal observation to the good effected.

The need also of individual work is apparent, that is, finding out as much as possible of the history, traits, &c., of individual prisoners; then working with each as his needs seem to require, followed by collective service as the way opens. Common sense talk and help touched with the right spirit will do much toward bridging the gulf between the criminal and the good.

The sanitary conditions of all places for the confinement of prisoners should be carefully looked after. In this connection it may be noted that the prisons and most of the jails of this state (Iowa) can be found in excellent condition. Food plenty and wholesome, discipline strict, without brutality or cruelty, sanitary conditions good. Many of our county jails are visited yearly by members of the Flower Mission committee from the Woman's Christian Temperance Union who are expected to do what they can to elevate, reclaim and instruct in right doing.

It has also been suggested that Friends should use their influence for the election or appointment of Christian men or women to be care-takers of prisoners; those who can temper justice with mercy, but withal be just to the state, to society and to the individual. The follower of crime should not be given a "Bed of Roses," neither should he be made a victim of the law's vindictiveness, but should be made to feel that while he has justly forfeited his right to liberty there is a chance to redeem himself. That through penitence he can regain his manhood again, that though the iron hand of the law may seem to be made only to crush, it may yet be extended to save.

A change in prison management, or perhaps in prison arrangement seems to some of our committee very desirable, in behalf of a certain class of criminals who properly belong in reformatory institutions, where they could be restrained and at the same time trained in useful habits and brought under Christian care. Under present conditions women of this class after serving the term of sentence almost certainly become at once violators of the law, passing back to prison again and again, until death closes the scene. Small as the numbers of this class may be in some of our prisons, the committee is of the judgment that they as well as imprisoned boys under the age of 15 years, should in such degree as is practicable be brought under the care of judicious matrons (or visitors in cases where the number of such prisoners will not admit of the employment of a matron).

THEO. P. MARSH, *Chairman*.

In the field of temperance labor, an increasing interest seems to be felt throughout our communities, and we believe there has been solid progress made in the growth of a substantial temperance sentiment during the past year, unhappily marred to some extent by divided judgment as to methods of work. We feel it best to call attention at the present time to the caution given in our annual advices against all participation in that spirit of partisanship which leads to defamation of character, recklessness of statement and partisan animosities, keeping in view our profession of Christian good will toward all men.

Recognizing that the power to prohibit by constitutional law involves the conviction in the minds of a majority of our voting citizenship of the necessity to so prohibit any specified vice, let us work in that spirit of good will which draws men together and opens their minds to conviction and fellowship in the work, toward the adoption of total abstinence in the lives of those who recognize its value and legal protection for the inexperienced, the weak and the vicious.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE INTERESTS.

To Jonathan W. Plummer, Chairman.

Since the report of a year ago, much has transpired of interest to temperance workers everywhere, as shown by the increased interest awakened by the agitation of the subject in all its forms, stirring the public mind and press to a realization of the fact that the demand for temperance legislation has come to stay. In other words, the temperance question has got into politics, whither we must follow it or be left behind with the conservative and lukewarm elements of society. From written reports by members of the committee in the several localities we find that not only the committee, but nearly all members of our Society, are interested and earnest workers in the cause, and are doing good work in connection with the temperance organizations of their neighborhoods, such as Temperance Alliances, Women's Christian Temperance Unions, Bands of Hope, and kindred associations. But owing to the separated homes of the committee no united labor has been done.

Reports from Indiana and Illinois show that progress is being made by the growth of public interest, which is the first step necessary towards any great reform. Kansas still holds its place with a growing determination to show that when the people once say that the *saloon must go*, its days are

numbered. Nebraska will not be far behind, as it has recently taken steps to let the voters say, at a special election, whether its territory can longer be made a refuge for the liquor element of Kansas and Iowa. In Iowa the law has passed its experimental stage, and is beginning to reap the results of its long effort, and now with the exceptions of a few counties containing large towns, where public opinion is not yet thoroughly aroused, the saloon has gone to return no more.

It might not be out of place in this connection to say that we find, when put to the test, that no law will enforce itself, either national or state, and that it depends at last upon the friends of a law in each community to see that it is respected.

Besides gratuitous literature distributed, there has been expended for supplies for schools and Band of Hope societies the sum of \$5.40.

HORACE G. WELCH, *Chairman*.

The committee recommends the payment from this year's account of the small sum expended, and that the Yearly Meeting appropriate the sum of two hundred and fifty (250) dollars for the use of this committee in its several branches of work, with the privilege of division among them as their needs may require and our limit will allow.

Signed on behalf of the committee on Philanthropic Labor.

JONATHAN W. PLUMMER, *Chairman*.

REPORT OF LIBRARIAN.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting now Sitting:

DEAR FRIENDS.—The following is the report of Librarian:

Our Penal Machinery and its Victims.....	1 copy.
George Fox's Works.....	8 volumes.
Clarkson's Portraiture of Quakerism.....	3 "
Gough's History of Quakerism.....	4 "
Clarkson's Review.....	1 "
Disciplines on hand.....	60 copies.
Two copies extra finished Extracts.	

Leaflets on hand:

Doctrinal.—Man as a Three-fold Being.
 Divine Worship.
 Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
 Gospel Ministry.
 To Our Young Men.
 The Divine Power as Manifest in Man.
 Address to Absent Members.

Several of the above named sent out since last report.

Due Librarian at last report.....	\$1.36
Paid out for postage and express matter.....	4.22
Total paid out.....	\$5.58
Received for 1 copy Discipline.....	\$.25
" per order.....	1.36 1.61
Due Librarian to date.....	\$3.97

ABEL MILLS, *Librarian*.

Clear Creek, Ills., 9th-mo. 18, 1888.

REPORT OF VISITING COMMITTEE.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

Last spring one of our members visited Friends in Macon county, Illinois. Two meetings were then held. This fall other meetings have been held there. Last week four members of the committee held a meeting at Rutland, La Salle county, Illinois. This meeting was composed of a few members only; most of those present were not members of our Society.

In Sixth-month last a member of the committee visited Genoa Meeting; held an appointed meeting there and visited all the families in that neighborhood belonging to the Meeting. held a meeting at Garrison, Nebraska, and visited all the families of Friends in that neighborhood. An appointed meeting was held at Lincoln and several Friends' families belonging to this Meeting were visited. At Omaha, in Seventh-month last, this same member of the committee held an appointed meeting and many families, members of other Yearly Meetings residing there, were visited by him.

A member of the committee attended East Jordan Meeting and held one appointed meeting there. In Fifth-month last two appointed meetings were held which were attended by several members, one at Benjaminville, Illinois, the other at Hoopeston, Illinois. While attending Blue River Quarterly Meeting two house meetings were attended in that vicinity, and one public meeting at Salem, Indiana. This last summer one member held an appointed meeting eight miles northeast of Ottawa, and one at Seneca, Illinois, having previously attended a meeting at Wyandot, Illinois, and visited one family there.

Another member of the committee held five appointed meetings about ten miles from Blue River Meeting. This same member, with another of the committee, visited all of the families of Friends in the neighborhood of Benjaminville Monthly Meeting.

A member reports having visited several families who were members of our meeting. In all, seven families and nine parts of families were visited by him in California and Nebraska. He had also visited Chicago Meeting.

Another member of the committee visited East Jordan Meeting, at which the First-day school was a very interesting adjunct to the meeting.

In Seventh-month last one of our committee visited Wapsiegonoc Monthly Meeting, and also the First-day meeting at Highlands.

In Eleventh-month last one of the committee visited O'Brien county, in northwestern Iowa, where reside parts of two families of Friends and a number who in early life had been associated with Friends. This member of our committee, in speak-

ing of the several opportunities had in this neighborhood, says, "It gave me the most complete comfort that I had ever realized in all my past religious life. Many persons expressed in meeting the heartfelt satisfaction they had experienced."

In our correspondence with absent members we have received four responses.

We feel that the importance and value of the labor of a committee of this character can scarcely be estimated, and recommend that care in this direction be continued by the Yearly Meeting.

Signed on behalf of the committee.

ABEL MILLS, *Clerk*.

Herewith we append names and residences of isolated members as far as the committee has been able to obtain them.

Blue River Monthly Meeting.—Wm. Coffin, 1038 Chestnut-st., Covington, Ky.; Rebecca Hobbs, Jeffersonville, Ind.; J. D. Heacock and family, Emporia, Volusia county, Florida; Milton Reyman and family, James Brickley and Fulton Bundy, Tekamah, Nebraska.

East Jordan.—Elmira R. Worrell, Pasadena, Cal.; Sarah E. Huff, Aurora, Ills.; Abia C. John and family, Vanderbilt, Campbell county, Colorado; Elizabeth Chase, Dixon, Ills.; Charles D. John, Frederic, Brown county, Dakota; Horace E. John and Wilber H. John, —, Brown county, Dakota; Samuel Lester and wife, William Lester and T. Howard Lester, Hazelhurst, Ogle county, Ills.; John E. Lester, Coleta, Whiteside county, Ills.; Benjamin Lester, Milledgeville, Carroll county, Ills.

Clear Creek Monthly Meeting.—Isaac Vale, Mary A. Vale, A. W. Vale, S. E. Vale, Nathan Vale, Elmira Vale, Eli Vale, Esther R. Mills and Esther Mills, Jr., White Rock, Kansas; Amos Vale, Colorado; William H. Mills and Mary E. Mills, Hardy, Nuckolls county, Neb.; Edwin Vale; Mary A. Swaney, Lincoln, Neb.; Rebecca W. Howard, Chester, Neb.; Thomas Mowery, Neb.; Elizabeth Boyle, Lydia Boyle, Wichita, Kans.; Franklin Griffith and Hiram Griffith, Glendive, Montana; Isaac Griffith, Lundy Griffith, Edward Griffith, Des Moines, Iowa; Robert Griffith, address not known; Thomas Rawlings and family, St. Joseph, Mo.; Sabina T. Dickey, Tulare, Cal.; Thos. Nelson, Wisconsin; John B. Smith, Elizabeth Smith, Jonathan K. Mills, Oliver N. and Edith Mills, Halfway, Mo.; John Averill, Terling, Colorado; Sidney Averill, Jr., Denver, Colorado; Elmina Petty, Wilson, Kans.; Jesse Mowery, Tracy, Minn.; Joseph J. Russell, Rebecca Russell, Susie Russell, Anna Stoops, William and Ann Knock, Sinai Allison, Asenath Garrettson, Ipava, Fulton county, Ills.; Sarah R. Gurney, Nebraska; Russell J. Lowmes and family, Lincoln, Neb.; Jane Belangee, Dover, Bureau county, Ills.; Amanda Carpenter, Emmeline C. Underhill, Seneca, Bureau county, Ills.; Kinzie Wood, Bloomington, McLean county, Ills.; David Mills, Chicago; Milton Mills, Chicago; Mary R. Ely, Peoria, Ills.; Sarah P. Parsons, Peoria, Ills.; Julia Pollard, Pittsburg, Pa.; Benjamin Ely, Rock Island, Ills.; John W. Price, wife and two children, Great Bend, Barton county, Kans.; Isaac P. Wireman and family, Susan Wireman, Mary A. Barnes, Ottawa, Franklin county, Kans.; Elizabeth Chase, Colorado; Sam'l R. Lewis, Ottawa, Ills.; William Griffith, Guysserville, California; Eveline Michaels, Ossawattamie, Kansas.

Benjaminville Monthly Meeting.—Edward W. Allen, Lincoln, Neb.; Ira P. Bedell and wife Tryphena, Fairbury, Jefferson county, Neb.; Mary, Charles

and Henry Dorland, Bennett, Lancaster county, Neb.; Sarah Fell, Hepner, Oregon; Geo. F., Mary and Deborah Hollinshead, Frank R. Hollinshead, Eldorado, Butler county, Kans.; Fannie Ivans, Great Bend, Kans.; Rufus Shinn, Rosalia, Butler county, Kans.; David R. and Mary Shinn and sons, William and Reeves, Eldorado, Kans.; Isabell Moore, Bennett, Lancaster county, Neb.; Alonzo W. Harvey, Garrison, Butler county, Neb.; Mary Emma Boucher, Rising City, Butler county, Mo.; Eva Anna Mustard, Blue Mound, Livingstone county, Mo.; Clarissa E. Anderson, Dawn, Livingstone county, Mo.; William Tyson, Muscotah, St. Clair county, Ills.; Philena Ray and daughters, Oak Park, Cook county, Ills.

Chicago Executive Meeting.—F. Edwin Fredericks, Los Angeles, Cal.; Harriett F. Wright, Deer and Corunna sts., Denver, Colorado; Mary Morris, O'Neil, Neb.; Abel Satterthwaite, Minneapolis, Minn.; Hannah B. Bishop, Duluth, Minn.; Mary W. Plummer, 10 Nicholson Place, St. Louis, Mo.; Jos. P. Plummer, Dixon, Ills.; Ellen John, Marquette, Mich.; Albert Closter, New York City; R. Alice Mills and two children, State Centre, Iowa; Moses and Anna Reynolds, Kansas City, Mo.

BRANCHES IN IOWA.

Wapsieonoc Monthly Meeting.—Lydia A. Hughes, Georgia Hughes, Abijah Janney and Franklin Galbraith, wife and children, Marshalltown, Iowa; Margaret Breed, Perry, Iowa; Sarah Cook, Dina Cook and Richard Sanders, Iowa City, Iowa; Sarah Leech, West Branch, Iowa; Julia N. Sharp, William G. Smith, Lizzie Smith, Charles Smith, Mary Smith, Barelay Mundy, and Eunice Haines, Chanute, Neosho county, Kans.; Wilmer Walton, Parsons, Kans.; Rebecca P. Chandlee, Denver, Colorado; Marzetta Chandlee, Colorado; Lewis Chandlee, Colorado Springs, Colorado; Elisha Pickering, Reese and Sarah Pickering and six children, Hannah Barton, Blue Springs, Neb.; Edward Hollingsworth, Missouri Valley, Iowa; Clara Murphy, Steele, Dak.; Daniel Seaman, Petefson, Iowa; Ann Price, Mary H. Conard, and Dillon Price, Ida Grove, Iowa; Sarah Holmes, Kearney, Neb.; Jesse Holmes, Jr., Washington, D. C.

Prairie Grove Monthly Meeting.—Edwin Blackburn, 341 A avenue West Side, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; William Pickering and family, Keota, Iowa; Lucretia M. Borton, Volicia, Iowa; Samuel Smith and family, Bennett, Lancaster county, Neb.; Elma Wilson and Edith Blackburn, Orleans, Neb.; Hannah J. Smith, No. 2539 J st., Denver, Colorado; Lydia Furkney, Trenton, Mo.; Landis Russell, New Albany, Ind.; John Phillips, Red Wing, Minn.; Clarkson and Mary Phillips and family, Gilead, Mo.; Phebe Harpstir, Bennett, Neb.; William Price, Proof, Wichita county, Kans.

Marietta Monthly Meeting.—Willman Johnson and family; John Carr, Mitchellville Iowa; Pennington Davis and wife, Reasnor, Jasper county, Iowa; Joel Hoag and family, Tama, Iowa; Evans Beitler and family, Schickley, Fill county, Neb.; Vincent Carr and family, Vickers family, address not known; Joseph Yates and family, Pasadena, Cal.; Philena Hambleton and daughter, Grinnell, Iowa; Dr. Geo. Whealen and family, Waterville, Dakota; Emmor Marsh, Mound City, Kans.; Anna Marsh Bartow, Chowan, Minn.; Adaline Hale Saling, Walla Walla, W. T.

It is desirable that such Friends as may change their location notify the chairman of our committee on Isolated Friends of such change and their postoffice address, in order that they may be supplied with our Minutes and such other literature as we may have for distribution. Also, that their location may be known so as to be reached by traveling visiting Friends.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ISOLATED MEMBERS.

The committee on Isolated Members have not been entirely unmindful of their work, though we feel it to be small compared to the great field of labor opened before us in this direction. One of our members, accompanied in part by others, has visited one hundred and thirty-four families and held sixteen appointed meetings in different parts of Illinois, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska. Others have been engaged in sending Minutes and other literature to about three hundred persons. Also, seventy-five copies of a First Reader (issued years ago by Indiana Yearly Meeting) to a colored school in South Carolina under the care of Abby D. Monroe, and one hundred and forty to the colored school at Aiken, South Carolina, under care of Martha Schofield—the last by Friends of Chicago—with temperance leaflets and literature of a healthful kind.

On behalf of the committee.

THOS. H. TRUEBLOOD.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FIRST-DAY SCHOOL INTERESTS.

The committee on First-day School Interests make the following report:

It has forwarded the balance of money on hand to the Yearly Meeting treasurer, thirteen dollars and fifteen cents (\$13.15). We believe the interest in First-day school work is increasing. We recommend the printing of the F.-D. S. minutes with the Yearly Meeting reports.

Signed on behalf of the committee.

O. P. MILLS.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES FOR MEETING OF MINISTERS AND ELDERS.

Ans. to 1st Query.—Some of our members do not attend our mid-week meetings. Most of them attend our First-day and mid-week meetings when ability is afforded. We question at times whether our families are sufficiently encouraged in the attendance of our religious meetings.

Ans. to 2nd Query.—We feel that Ministers in the exercise of their gifts, give evidence of a divine qualification.

Ans. to 3rd Query.—Our Ministers and Elders maintain Christian fellowship one with another, and with the Meetings to which they belong; we believe a religious concern is manifest for the advancement of truth and the proper observance of our good order.

Ans. to 4th Query.—Ministers and Elders endeavor to be good examples in uprightness and moderation of conduct. More care to instruct their families in our principles, and testimonies is desirable and we believe would be profitable.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EXERCISES.

Our fourteenth annual gathering held two deeply solemn meetings for worship, on First-day preceding Yearly Meeting. We were feelingly and powerfully addressed by some dear Friends from abroad, as well as some from our own fold. The teacher within was shown to be able to work for our salvation, without aid from dogma or creed. Love is the highest of God's attributes—in His love we find our refuge. Self indulgence should be guarded against; in it there is no growth. Keep thy heart diligently, for out of it are the issues of life. We should preserve our health and strength to be better fitted to perform His service. Oh that the young could realize their high destiny, and not fear ridicule, but courageously resist all tempting allurements, for sad are the results of yielding. Obedience to God's law is happiness and life, disobedience is unhappiness and death; then why not choose the better part, if only from purely selfish consideration.

In the afternoon a large concourse was addressed by the dedicated servants of the Lord, to the strengthening of many souls. The language was, "Keep silence before me, Oh, ye isles, and let the people renew their strength." A season of quiet ensued, broken by the voice of exhortation to lay up treasures in Heaven; earthly treasures are sometimes gained at the expense of integrity, but Heavenly treasures, never. As bread for the body is gained by daily toil, so is bread for the soul. Other valuable testimony was given to the vital importance of upholding our high standard of religion.

The exercises of our business sessions were characterized by diversity of sentiment, always tempered by great harmony of feeling. Our visiting Friends from other Yearly Meetings, presented minutes from their respective meetings, and they, as well as many who are among us without minutes, were gladly and cordially welcomed among us.

In the beginning of our deliberations, desires were feelingly expressed, that both in making and accepting, or declining appointment, we might be guided by the Spirit of Truth, and not act hastily.

We were also at this time, most earnestly and convincingly addressed upon the subject of useless extravagance in dress and living. It was represented that lavish expenditure for

style and outward appearance above that which we are able to afford, was oppressive, and detrimental to a higher development, and we were most tenderly admonished to rise above the tyranny of fashion, and be content with our simple style of dress and living. The gratification of love of beauty was not inconsistent with simplicity. We were especially exhorted not to burden ourselves uselessly for the sake of appearing as well as those whose means are greater than our own. The reading of the Epistles called forth much feeling expressive of the benefits and pleasures of our correspondence with our brethren and sisters in other meetings. We were strengthened as we read how the standard of truth was upheld in other fields. We were admonished by many exercised friends, that the duty of worship was a paramount one, not only in the regular gatherings of the people, but in the social and family circle. The seed dropped by the concerned father or mother in the sacred privacy of the family circle may not mature for many years, but it may, in God's good time, bear fruit an hundred fold. Young parents were feelingly urged not to neglect this duty while their families were gathering around them. A living concern was expressed for the promulgation of our principles.

The power of the Scriptures of Truth for consolation, for inspiration and for spiritual instruction was impressively dwelt upon; in them is matter suited to every station of life, and every condition of mind. If to one mind there are parts veiled in obscurity, to another they may be illumined by the light of truth. But we were encouraged to believe that the Spirit that inspired them and which is higher than they, may still be our guide. The inner light was shown to be a safe guide, even in matters of business, and the hope was expressed that Friends would more often in this respect, follow its leadings.

The example of George Fox was cited, who, disregarding all else, went into the depths of his heart, to know the truth revealed there.

A dear friend was solemnly impressed with the text, "Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man." We were later told that it is easier to be in the Temple of the Lord, than out of it; when our human weakness leads us out, then comes trouble and suffering.

The queries were read on Third-day, and called out the best gifts of many in attendance. It was demonstrated that the obstacles that often are allowed to prevent prompt and regular attendance at our meetings might often be avoided by a little forethought and arrangement. It is good for us to attend meeting if only from a sense of duty, but better far to go because we love to—love to God and man gives a living feast, even,

in small silent meetings. A dear visiting sister expressed great sympathy with friends living remote from their places of worship, but wished to encourage them not to relax their diligence. Though it is true that "The flesh profiteth nothing; it is the spirit that maketh alive," yet we cannot ignore our bodies. Many testified to the strength derived for the week's duties from attendance at our small meetings, where often feasts were spread, of which all may partake, whether few or many.

The second query called out earnest testimony. Love and fellowship are the out-pouring of the heart in unison with God. It will draw the mantle of Charity over the short-comings of others, it will close our ears to the detracting tale, it will seal our lips against repeating it, unless from a sense of duty, to the warning of others—it will impel us to a loving watch over our brethren and sisters, for their good; and will ever react upon us to the increase of our own strength. In the treatment of offenders we were directed to the example of the Good Shepherd, and urged to follow them with the crook of love, rather than the rod of correction; to approach the erring one as brother to brother, or sister to sister, feeling that we are all joint heirs to human weaknesses.

As we have no schools under our immediate supervision, parents were advised to exercise a watchful care over those where their children attend. They were also encouraged to study with their children, at home, those sciences that open the wonders of creation to the enquiring mind. Young parents were feelingly entreated to train their children in the spirit of self-sacrificing love, and that in all things they might be a suitable example of all the virtues and Christian graces. Mothers were urged not to be too much absorbed in housekeeping cares, to attend to the spiritual natures of their tender charges. The dust on the floor is not to be compared with the tarnishing of the soul.

At the meeting for worship on Fourth-day, testimony was offered to the efficacy of gospel truths. Come up higher, was the exhortation; build up character by the aid of reason and intellect, enlightened by the true spirit of religion; and we will be qualified to see old things in a new light, and new things in their true character.

A feeling of sympathy was expressed for all honest doubters; those who would gladly believe, but whose natural constitution impels to seek a reason for whatever faith is within them. It was urged that the stream of life should be partaken of at the fountain head, where we could drink to the refreshing of our souls. It was beautifully presented to us that God's way is ever the best at all times. If we resign our will to His, He

will shape the stones to the strong upbuilding of our characters, which will then become lasting monuments to the honor and glory of His name.

The reading of our report on social purity occasioned a most earnest discourse, on purity of life. Parents were especially admonished in regard to their duty to their children, and urged to the importance of early informing them of the wonderful structure of their bodies, and the uses of its various organs. Innocence is not always virtue, and the child unacquainted with the hidden springs of his being, is liable to fall an easy victim to the seductions of the unprincipled and vicious, if circumstances should ever place him under such influences.

A lively interest was also manifested in the reports of the other branches of philanthropic labor in which we are engaged, and the Meeting truly seemed to uphold the hands of those whom it delegates to perform its work. A desire was felt that more practical results could be reported another year.

A children's meeting was held, with exercises especially adapted to their needs and interests, and a real enthusiasm seemed to pervade their youthful minds, which seems a sufficient ground to hope that these provisions for the children should be a permanent feature of our annual meeting.

One parlor meeting was held, in which the moving of the Spirit was unusually felt. Those participating, felt that it was indeed one of the most solemn and refreshing seasons of their lives—an occasion to be treasured in the memory with devout thanksgiving.

Our deliberations throughout, were characterized by fraternal love and condescension in a most marked degree. We have been led to feel that the Spirit of the Most High has descended and rested upon us, and in this feeling of solemnity we reluctantly separated.

Signed on behalf of the committee.

MARY C. WHITE, *Clerk*.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

	Lincoln Executive Meeting.	Marletta Monthly Meeting.	Prairie Grove Monthly Meeting.	Genoa Monthly Meeting.	Waplesonoc Monthly Meeting.	Total Prairie Grove Quar- terly Meeting.	Clear Creek Monthly Meeting.	Blue River Monthly Meeting.	Benjaminville Monthly Meeting.	Richland Monthly Meeting.	Blue River Quarterly Meeting.	East Jordan Executive Meeting.	Central Execu- tive Meeting.	Blue River Executive Meeting.	Total Blue River Quarterly Meeting.	Total Belonging to Illinois Yearly Meeting.
No. of Families.....	20	20	20	13	31	74	46	18	34	...	...	5	9	4	116	190
" Parts of Families.....	8	17	17	9	30	64	58	21	33	...	...	11	27	11	103	227
" Members.....	121	111	111	75	150	457	197	120	156	84	...	11	35	24	631	1088
" Non-resid'nt Mbrs.....	35	29	37	53	154	154	116	19	67	1	...	15	15	...	233	387
" Minors.....	++27	...	...	18	42	87	33	48	41	12	...	10	12	5	161	248
Usual attendance at Meeting on First Days.....	28	35	35	15	*28	118	35	60	45	20	...	17	25	20	222	340
Usual attendance week days.....	\$10	20	20	...	+12	30	4	6	7	20	...	...	...	+6	43	73
Additions to Membership.																
Births.....	1	...	...	3	1	5	1	4	2	...	...	...	2	...	8	13
Requests.....	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	1	12	12
Certificates.....	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	4
Total Additions.....	1	...	...	4	2	7	...	14	2	...	...	...	4	1	21	28
Losses in Membership.																
From Deaths.....	...	...	...	1	2	3	3	4	3	...	...	...	1	3	14	17
" Disowment.....	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	9
" Resignation.....	...	5	...	...	1	8	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	5
" Removals.....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Losses.....	...	5	...	...	5	10	7	4	3	...	...	...	2	3	19	29
NET ADDITIONS.....	1	...	...	2	...	3	6	10	...	...	...	...	2	...	12	15
NET LOSSES.....	...	5	...	...	3	8	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	9	17

* Highland. + West Liberty. ++ No week day meeting except for discipline. + Executive meeting. ++ Resident. § Monthly.
|| No mid-week meetings held.

↔MEMORIAL↔

OF BLUE RIVER MONTHLY MEETING, CONCERNING CHARLES BROOKS.

Charles Brooks, who has been long and closely connected with Blue River Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, departed this life the 10th of 12th-mo., 1887, aged 81 years and 8 days.

It seems right to preserve some record of a life so long and so full of earnest purpose, hence this brief tribute to his memory by those who knew him best and loved him. He was born in Delaware county, Pennsylvania, the 2nd of 12th-mo., 1806. His parents, John and Elizabeth Brooks, were members of Darby Monthly Meeting of Friends. His life from childhood to early manhood was spent near the place of his birth. This period, though it may not be eventful, is in every life a period full of interest, for in it generally are molded and shaped the aims and purposes of all after years.

A short time before his death the writer of this heard him speak of this period with much tenderness, of its many trials and temptations and of sweet visitations of the Holy Spirit even in his childhood days. He said that his mother was left a widow with a large family and but limited means, while he was yet a child, and he was early sent out from home to work, to aid in the general support, and thus his opportunities for mental improvement were very limited; yet by a diligent use of the odd moments, he obtained a fair education and early formed the habit of reading good books and of keeping good company. He said that he dearly loved even when a child, to go where people met to wait upon God, but being very diffident and wishing to avoid observation he generally sat down near the door; yet even here, though unnoticed, he often felt a sweet influence come over him, and he early learned the lesson that God in his mercy was very near to little children. This precious visitation called him by the tenderest impressions to purer and better living—strengthened him in temptation, soothed him in trouble, and was with him in a greater or less degree through all his after years.

In 1835 he was married to Elizabeth Simpson, which was a happy union, and with whom he lived in harmony 44 years, when she was called through death to the higher life. Six children were born to them, five of whom survive. Soon after his marriage

he removed to Bucks county, Pennsylvania, and became a member of Fallsington Monthly Meeting.

In 1844 he removed to Washington county, Indiana, and became a member of Blue River Monthly Meeting, and of that Meeting continued a faithful and consistent member the remainder of his days; filling at different times the stations of Overseer and Elder to the honor of truth and the approbation of his friends. For 44 years he has been closely associated with Blue River Monthly and Quarterly Meetings in their efforts to uphold the standard of truth among men. And though diligent in business, yet he found time to attend all our meetings, and perform with earnestness and cheerfulness such other religious duties as seemed to be required at his hand. In his domestic and social relations he was affable and kind, endearing himself to his family, his neighbors and friends, and especially to the young and diffident, for whom he has always had a word of cheer or encouragement. He was a man of robust frame and health, knowing but little of sickness until the last year of his life, when a partial paralysis of one side admonished him that his end was near, and he often expressed a willingness and a desire to go and join the dear ones gone before, when it should please the Divine Father to call him. It was his earnest desire that he might be taken suddenly. This desire in a measure seemed to be answered, for on the morning of 12th-mo. 10th, while sitting at breakfast and conversing with his family, he suddenly ceased to breathe, and the spirit peacefully and quietly quit its earthly tabernacle.

Signed by direction of Blue River Monthly Meeting of Friends, held 5th-mo. 5th, 1888, by

NATHAN T. BROOKS, }
LOWRY H. TRUEBLOOD, } *Clerks.*

Read and approved in Blue River Quarterly Meeting of Friends, held at Highlands Creek, Washington county, Indiana, 5th-mo. 26th, 1888.

JAMES W. HEACOCK, }
LOWRY H. HIGGINS, } *Clerks for the Day.*

↔MUSIC.↔

AN ESSAY BY THOS. E. HOGUE.

In the subject chosen for an essay, I only propose to discuss it as associated with the Society of Friends. I do not propose to enter the privacy of the home life and discuss its appropriateness there, but only as a factor in our First-day school as a means to build up society and advance the cause of truth and righteousness in the earth, compatible with the great central principle professed by us. In presenting my thoughts upon this subject, I do it with deference and with the utmost kindness to all who may differ with me.

What is music? I answer, harmony of sound, and were it not for one of the five senses through which a sense of this harmony is communicated to the mind we could have no conception of music. It enters thereby into the physical economy of man, and is not one of the pillars in the great spiritual building. Its effects upon us are emotional and evanescent. It deals wholly with the passions, possesses no convicting power, establishes no principle, convinces of no truth. It sways the multitude through the emotions of the human mind, and thus becomes a source of entertainment or amusement. The great work of progress in righteousness depends on the application of a correct principle to human life; a wrong here and there must be given up, must be sacrificed, and the beautiful principle of love and mercy take its place; thus we grow in the simplicity of the Christ-life. Christianity is a principle. It seeks not to entertain and amuse, but to instruct in all the duties of life. It leads away from sensuality as a means to happiness. It seeks to do good at any sacrifice. While it adores the Author of all good with a warm, loving heart, it seeks the uplifting of humanity everywhere, it touches our hearts with sympathy for the suffering of every clime, and thus our hearts are attuned, not by harmony of sound, but by the silent touches of a divine power that leavens all into its own nature, and thus all the powers of the soul realize that divine harmony which harmony of sound can never produce. A stream can not rise higher than its fountain. The source of all good, of all spiritual life, of the developement of the God-like powers of the soul, is God. To be a recipient of this blessed

spirit and have our lives moulded by it, is to submit ourselves to its guidance and open our hearts to its indwelling power.

All great reformatations have been wrought by the truth. As men and women have been true to their convictions and proclaimed them to the world, even when it has endangered life and property, how it has swept over the world compelling conviction! Jesus of Nazareth was raised up by a divine power and spake as never man spake. Enemies were arrayed against him; they saw his armor was truth, his Father was with him. They felt the searching words he uttered, and said, if this man is allowed to rule he will take away our place and nation. Kings and priests were made to tremble; they feared him as a great power for good. We have no account of his resorting to music to make his work more efficient. He did not amuse or entertain the people by gratifying their senses. So down through the ages whenever and wherever error has been enthroned and consequent unrest followed because of the exercise of despotic power over the consciences of men, God in His might has raised up instruments who have fearlessly through His power alone gone into the battle, and often through a long, tedious struggle, perhaps of many years, have succeeded in supplanting the enemy. The fire thus kindled has never ceased to burn until it accomplished the object whereunto it was sent.

Those of us who are familiar with the history of the Society of Friends know what they endured for the sake of truth, the convicting and searching testimonies which they bore amid a world-wide opposition, with implacable cruelty in its heart. Notwithstanding this formidable power arrayed against them, the truth gained ground and a complete victory for the religion of Jesus came, liberty was granted to all to worship God according to their own highest conception of Him, and soon was gathered a large society, bringing into its fold men of high rank in church and state. Music performed no part in this great reformation. I believe whatever good is done not only for the purification of the individual soul, but also the uplifting of humanity, that underneath all is a power mightier than man at work. If we could only rely entirely upon this divinity within us, what grand results would bless the world! A looking to anything else as a means to accomplish a great good is to distrust our Heavenly Father. I believe it is as true now as the day it was uttered, "Without me ye can do nothing."

Again it is asked, How shall we get our children interested in the affairs of Society, that we may educate them in its principles? How shall we draw them to us? I am aware I am dealing with a difficult problem. Music is suggested as the attractive power. In order that Christianity be made attractive and acceptable to the young mind they must see its loveliness. They need

the helping hand of the parent, who must feel the importance of this religious or christian training. To teach aright we must be imbued with the Christ spirit, must feel that immortal spirits are committed to our charge and upon us rests in a great measure the future of their lives. We should watch closely all wrong manifestations, reprove and show wherein the error lies. In our relations to the child we must meet it on the plane of real life and make our principles practical. Infuse as much as possible the kind, loving spirit in their hearts. Create a reverence for our Heavenly Father, a love for truth and right. These seeds sown in early life will in due time bring forth fruit. This labor will never be lost, and in after years they will recur to this instruction and counsel, timely given, with gratitude. The child and parent will realize a precious nearness and sympathy. The heart of both will be centered in life's great work. Thus we deal with principles, and as they become infused in the child's life they build up a noble character that is felt wherever known. Such a child, man or woman, is at home wherever it breathes the atmosphere of purity. In this sweet communion with all that is good it is cheerful and happy—happy in the consciousness of that power innate in the human soul that leads into the kingdom of heaven and experiences the grandest harmony we can have any conception of. Then that which underlies all real excellence in morals and religion is of infinite value to the child and all the intermediate stages to old age. Music in itself is innocent, but liable to abuse; and more credit, I have feared, is given it than it deserves as a potent power for good, thereby detracting from the real worth of that principle which does give efficiency to the real work of life.

↔EPISTLES.↔

FROM THE YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, HELD
IN NEW YORK, BY ADJOURNMENTS FROM THE 28TH OF FIFTH MONTH TO
THE 31ST OF THE SAME, INCLUSIVE, 1888.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—The Apostolic injunction, "Let brotherly love continue," was impressively revived at the opening of our annual session. Difference of sentiment might be expected upon subjects introduced for consideration viewed from various standpoints. But difference of view should not occasion difference of feeling. When the desire to establish our premises yields, in loving condescension, to our brother as equally sincere in his presentation, the spirit of forbearance will prevail and the unity be preserved.

The reading of the epistles occasioned unusual interest. That the Seven Yearly Meetings remain in unbroken fellowship, was cited with gratitude as not the least of our many blessings.

The insight furnished into the spiritual condition of our Society was valuable, not only in individual self-examination, but also in its application to each portion of the heritage.

In this particular, the loving regard and labor for distant isolated brethren, manifested in one of the epistles, had the effect of arousing concern for those of our members similarly circumstanced; and a committee was appointed to the service.

We likewise heartily sympathized with the efforts, indicated in the epistles, to further arbitration among nations as means of adjustment of differences, rather than the resort to war; with the continued interest in the welfare of the Indian; and with the even greater area of labor for the benefit of the colored man, who, though freed from slavery, is the inheritor of vices consequent upon it. The results of a lack of the education and moral uplifting of the freedman have been pictured in language calculated to awaken a sense of serious responsibility.

Temperance also, which was prominently referred to in the epistles, has had added value, with the evidence of increasing solicitude for its maintenance throughout our religious organization. While our members appear quite free from the traffic

in, and use of, intoxicating beverages, there is evident need of a better understanding of the innumerable bearings of this subject upon the individual, the home, the church and the state. The work of educating the people, relative to the duties of the Christian citizen and the Christian church regarding the giant evil of intemperance, we believe to be one of the important missions of our religious society.

The follower of Christ can be no idler. "When thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren." Faith will find expression in works of practical righteousness. For, as testified the blessed Master, "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples."

The field of service that opens within our borders will not be confined to denominational limits, but, like our Great Exemplar, with the "anointing of the Holy Spirit and with power" we shall likewise "go about doing good, for God will be with us."

The examination of the state of our Society, as indicated by the answers to the queries, brought forth pertinent testimonies. Our testimony in favor of a free gospel ministry, resting upon Divine qualification alone, will be effectively manifested by the regular attendance of all our meetings. Though our simple dependence upon the operation of the Holy Spirit may find little favor with the professor of creed and dogma, the attentive introverted mind will surely find the "Witness for God" dispelling doubt and establishing as a blessed reality the fact that He is the teacher of His people Himself.

Gospel Messengers would thus be prepared to bear the glad tidings to other hearts.

The query on the treatment of offenders received touching comment. When the extended arms of love go out to the prodigal again and again rarely will the need for the exercise of disciplinary separation be required; but through forbearance and long suffering, restoration will be effected.

The concern for the guarded and religious education of the youth has been prominent in our deliberations. While facilities exist, which should receive liberal support, for the acquisition of knowledge, how unavailing the result unless accompanied by moral and spiritual culture so that the whole man may be equipped for the contests of life, and be "not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord."

We have been cheered by the presence and co-operation of the young who are evincing increasing interest in the affairs of our Society. The First-day schools receive increased care and attention; and the meetings of the First-day School Association held during this week, with the large number of those in attendance immediately identified, and of others in sympathy with the work, show unabated zeal in this important movement.

We have been favored with the company of a number of beloved Friends from other Yearly Meetings, whose Gospel exercises have largely contributed to our comfort and edification.

"Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you."

Signed by direction of the meeting.

ROBERT S. HAVILAND, *Clerk*.

FROM NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING OF WOMEN FRIENDS, HELD BY ADJOURNMENTS FROM THE 28TH OF FIFTH MONTH TO THE 31ST OF THE SAME, INCLUSIVE, 1888.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR SISTERS:—Once again, we have been permitted to come together as a body, to transact the business of our beloved Society. Your epistle, and those from other Yearly Meetings with which we correspond, have been received, and read; and the feelings of love which prompted them, have tended to strengthen and encourage us.

It has been cause of great rejoicing that the loving Father has put it into the hearts of so many of His devoted servants to visit us at this, our annual gathering. Their presence has been a silent benediction. Simply to look into their faces, where "the dove sits visibly brooding," creates in us a hungering for the bread which nourisheth them, for we know they have been with God. When the bread has been broken in our midst, so great was the portion of many, that they had to tell of the bounty of the Dispenser of all good.

We miss from among us several of our standard-bearers; who, since our last gathering, have been called from works to rewards; and, while we miss them from our midst, we cannot but rejoice for them, that they have been gathered to the haven of rest.

The answers to the queries called forth loving counsel from those whom experience has fitted to be our counselors. Sincere desire was expressed that our young members should feel more earnestly concerned to live up to our testimonies; to be more faithful in the attendance of our meetings, and ever ready to yield a willing obedience to the requirements of our Heavenly Father as they are made known; that they may experience the sweet peace which results from obedience to the Divine law, having God for the center of their desires, and His encircling arms for the circumference of their lives.

We were appealed to to be guarded in our conversation, lest

we say anything that may injure the name of another; and also to avoid flattery, and study rather perfect candor and sincerity.

The First-day School Conference held more sessions than is usual, for none of the interesting topics discussed could we afford to omit. The teachers were charged to direct the minds of the little ones to the good within; not to the letter which killeth; not to spend too much time on the preparation of the text, but strive rather to get into a humble, receptive state and near the Great Teacher, in order that the right thought may be given when needed. We grow by giving to the little hungry souls about us. Let us not be lifted up by our own pride and the world's applause; but be willing to give of the good things that have been handed out to us so abundantly, to the stray lambs who are hungering for just such food as it is ours to give.

The philanthropic work of our Society has been given, as has yours, into the hands of one large committee, who have divided it, appointing different lines of work to each; and a two days' conference was held at the close of the Yearly Meeting. The committee presented for our judgment, two memorials; one addressed to Congress, and the President of the United States, asking for the establishment of a Court of International Arbitration. The other, addressed also to Congress and the President, with regard to suppressing "the liquor traffic which is now being carried on by citizens of our own and other countries, with the native races of Africa, and of the Western Pacific Islands." Both branches of our meeting appointed three Friends to proceed to Washington, and present these memorials, with the earnest hope that they may tend to bring about wiser and more beneficent legislation on the questions involved therein.

We have a mission transmitted to us from our founders, to bear testimony to certain distinctive principles; among which are immediate revelation, and a free gospel ministry; and if we, as standard-bearers of the Society of Friends, would receive the reward of, "Well done, good and faithful servants!" these testimonies must be kept prominently in the foreground, and never, in the least degree, be made subservient to other concerns. As we are willing to testify before the world of the truths of the Gospel, as *we* see them, so shall we extend our borders; not only bringing others to our fold, but broadening and deepening our own lives, by the consciousness that the close and tender relationship ever existing between the souls of all true disciples of the blessed Master, is the strong cord which draws all these to Eternal Goodness itself.

With a salutation of love, we remain your sisters.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the Meeting.

AMANDA K. MILLER, *Clerk*.

FROM GENESEE YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS, HELD AT BLOOMFIELD, ONTARIO, BY ADJOURNMENTS FROM THE 11TH OF SIXTH-MONTH TO THE 14TH OF THE SAME, INCLUSIVE, 1888.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—As we are again drawn by the strong bonds of true Christian fellowship, to assemble ourselves together for the transaction of important business pertaining to our Society; our hearts do truly rejoice that Friends from near and afar are all o'ershadowed by the canopy of the Father's love, and that the prayers of the absent ones are offered in our behalf, and that the spirit of love and unity may ever guide us upward and onward to the accomplishment of those noble purposes for which we are designed.

We have been led to realize still more clearly, the necessity of each individual engaging in active service for the Master, while new fields of labor are opening before us, and the appeal comes to us all, "Go ye into my vineyard and labor." Every soul, be it never so weary with toil, must join in songs of praise for the abundant reward of "Well done, good and faithful servant." Tender and loving admonitions, from the "instruments of the Lord" we believe, greeted our ears, aye, touched our hearts, as they fell from the lips of exercised Friends who have come to us as messengers from God, bringing fresh inspirations, and true brotherly counsel, and we can but desire that when their mission here is completed they may rest from their labors and their works follow them.

We feel that the bonds which bind together the old and young are ever growing stronger, and that our younger members are cheerfully and willingly entering into active service, from the realization that ere long the responsibilities of our Society must devolve upon them, and is it not a comforting assurance to those approaching "the eve of life," to realize that there are those possessed of strength and manhood who feel it their incumbent duty to sustain the principles and testimonies for truth which their forefathers bear before the world?

The condition of our isolated members was brought into feeling remembrance, resulting in the appointment of a committee to endeavor to ascertain their present location, and such other information as may be desired, to the end, that they may be strengthened and encouraged in a continuance of labor for the principles of truth, and as an adjunct thereto, we were counseled to be punctual in the attendance of all our religious meetings, and that our example bear no defect in the eyes of our fellow men.

The committee appointed last year to labor for the abolition of "capital punishment," or the "death penalty," report the re-

sults of their efforts as encouraging to them, and strong hopes were entertained that the day is not far distant when man shall cease to slay his fellow man in retaliation for wrong.

Our public meetings we feel were unusually interesting occasions, wherein our principles and testimonies for truth were unmistakably defined, while a spirit of charity and forbearance was apparent toward those who may differ from us in religious opinion.

Our First-day School Conference possessed the usual interesting features, and by the reports received from various fields of labor, we have reason to return thanks to our Heavenly Father for the increasing interest manifested by some hitherto inactive as workers in First-day school labor, and we feel assured that many of our members have entered with full purpose of heart into the work of impressing on the minds of our precious little ones, the true and practical principles of that noble religion which we profess.

Certainly it is as seed scattered on good ground, and under the influence of an allwise and loving parent will in the years to come bring due returns for the labor faithfully and prayerfully bestowed.

Much earnest counsel was extended to those at present engaged in the work, calling them to a careful examination, that they lose not the spirit of the work, but search with earnest care for the precious pearls that lie beneath.

A large and attentive audience was present at our temperance meeting, where we were privileged to listen to stirring addresses from those actively engaged in the work, who called our attention to the necessity of individual effort in order to suppress the countless evils of the liquor traffic, and to hasten the day when alcohol shall cease to run rampant throughout our fair land, destroying the homes and happiness of the loved ones. We felt to rejoice and take courage that as a society our members are nearly clear from the traffic in this deadly poison, thus enabling us to present to our fellow men a pure and living example.

Your excellent epistle will, we trust, act as an incentive to greater faithfulness in the performance of our varied allotment of duty when we shall have returned to our several homes to engage in the secular affairs of life.

With a salutation of love we remain your friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting aforesaid.

JONATHAN D. NOXON, } *Clerks.*
REBECCA WILSON, }

FROM GENESEE YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS, HELD BY ADJOURNMENTS
FROM THE 10TH OF SIXTH MONTH, TO THE 14TH OF THE SAME, INCLUSIVE,
1888.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—With feelings of gratitude to “Him from whom all blessings flow” we once more gather in a Yearly Meeting capacity, realizing as eye meets eye, friendly hands are clasping, and loving hearts gather into solemn silence, how good is “Israel’s tender shepherd,” who has preserved us to greet each other in that love which is of His own begetting, clothing our minds with the “unity of the spirit in the bond of peace.”

It is a privilege to address you, dear Friends, with feelings of tendering interest and sympathy, grateful for your kind and loving message, inciting us to greater diligence, and truer dedication of heart, and we desire our response may be as “deep calling unto deep.”

We have known on this occasion what it is to be drawn by the “everlasting love,” have recognized it in the tendering counsels of the ministry of the gospel of Christ, by his annointed messengers, and by a renewed sense of the divine guidance, which has enabled us to transact the business which annually claims our attention in harmony and condescension.

We have the company of several dear friends from other Yearly Meetings, whose labors of love and silent travail of spirit, as well as the efforts of our own dear qualified ones, have been truly instructive and encouraging, bringing largely to view the necessity of abiding near to the fountain of wisdom, that we may receive a right understanding of spiritual truths, leading away from a dependence upon outward instrumentalities—to an inward, experimental knowledge of the divine restorer, who is nigh for our help in every time of need.

The answers to the queries called forth expression particularly in reference to the attendance of our religious meetings, reminding us how much our spiritual growth may be fostered, by mingling with those of the same aspirations, in our quiet and oft times solemn gatherings, and unless these smaller streams keep flowing, the larger ones will certainly fail. And in regard to the love and fellowship which should be our endeavor, the conviction was expressed—there is no greater nobility of character than to be willing to acknowledge a fault, for “greater is he that ruleth his own spirit, than he that taketh a city.”

Our First-day school work is going bravely forward; some schools reporting an increase of attendance and interest. Renewed were the desires that the workers in this vineyard may have sympathy with and interest in our simple faith, inculcat-

ing the principles we profess both by example and precept, endeavoring to center the minds of the dear youth upon the source of all good, which is Christ, the ever-present Teacher and Revelator.

The report of our Representative committee brought before us the subject of the abolition of the death penalty; interest was manifested, and a committee appointed to have the matter in charge, the belief being expressed that if the attention of the people could be aroused to the great necessity for such a reform it might soon be accomplished.

Encouraging reports were received from different localities, where individuals as well as committees are working in the cause of temperance; lively interest was taken and the meeting appropriately addressed. The methods of needful labor were illustrated by the action of a skillful physician who carefully enquires into the cause of disease, thereby preparing himself to contend with its different phases; so if we would successfully labor, we must know how best to grapple with the malady which fastens upon its victims a life of degradation and a death of despair. And although as a society our hands are comparatively clean, yet we are our brother's keeper, and our duty to the community will not be discharged until there is a total prohibition of the traffic in intoxicants. May God's power be felt in the government and purity be known in the home.

Solicitude was expressed for the welfare of our isolated members, and a committee appointed to offer all the help and encouragement possible to maintain an interest in the Society and to live in accordance with the principles we profess.

With you, we are mourning for forms that have vanished and the sound of voices that are stilled, yet in our sadness, rejoicing in the promise of the crown of well done, to those who in all steadfastness, are faithful unto death.

Our hearts were comforted by evidences of interest and dedication in some of the dear youth, trusting they will be drawn into the work of our organization.

They have been feelingly entreated to yield a ready obedience to the promptings of duty, that they may not only experience but be instrumental in bringing about the reforms that are so much needed in the world.

May we all be imbued with that spirit which animated Jesus when he said, "My Father worketh hitherto and I work," going humbly forth in every service to which we may be called with a "perfect heart and with a willing mind."

With affection, we remain your sisters.

On behalf of Genesee Yearly Meeting.

REBECCA WILSON, }
JONATHAN D. NOXON, } *Clerks.*

FROM THE YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS, HELD IN PHILADELPHIA, BY ADJOURNMENTS FROM THE 14TH DAY OF FIFTH-MONTH TO THE 18TH OF THE SAME, INCLUSIVE, 1858.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—In again assembling together for the transaction of the weighty affairs of the church, a feeling of thankfulness has spread over us for the evidence furnished that we are still the recipients of Divine love, filling many hearts with renewed desires to carry on the work of faithfully upholding the righteous testimonies, which we as a people have been called to present to the world.

We esteem the epistles from our distant brethren, as among the interesting exercises coming before our Yearly Meeting; they were read during the first session and attentively listened to. The spirit of condescension and Christian love that has pervaded the entire deliberations of our large Yearly Meeting, has been a source of encouragement and renewed spiritual strength.

We have been feelingly reminded that brotherly regard, when begotten in the heart of the true servant of Christ, is far deeper and stronger than the friendship of man for man; a trifling difference of opinion, or even a misunderstanding, may destroy the latter. We were led to rejoice in this appearance of vital Christianity, which as evidenced in the epistles received, exists among all the Yearly Meetings with which we correspond and which also pervades our own borders.

A number of Friends from other Yearly Meetings have been very acceptably in attendance, several of them with minutes of introduction from their respective Monthly Meetings according to the good order observed among us, when traveling in the service of Truth.

The attendance and interest of our youth at the different sessions of our meeting has been gratifying to us.

We were urged to the faithful attendance of all our meetings, and they that meet together near the middle of the week, although their numbers may be few, were encouraged to be steadfast in this important duty, ever remembering that "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength."

The subject of the guarded care and encouragement of schools among us, has had the faithful attention of a committee for several years and funds were placed at their disposal so that the work might not be retarded for want of means, and the good results accomplished attest the benefit of the labor bestowed.

We have no complete returns from the First-day schools within our limits; since their official recognition by the Yearly Meeting they have claimed increased attention among us.

The committee on intoxicating beverages have given active attention to their duties; they were continued and encouraged to pursue their labor, as way opens, in accordance with the operation of Divine Truth in their minds.

The report of the committee on our isolated members showed that they have given careful and detailed attention to the concern assigned to their care, and that they have procured the names of 369 persons of the class referred to. They reside in 182 different places. There are however 21 places in which four or more members are reported, several of them having 8, 9, 10 and 12 each. They mainly reside between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains, but some are still more distant. As these are only our own members and do not include any who are members of the other six Yearly Meetings, it is evident that the above figures would be materially increased if all the Yearly Meetings would appoint similar committees with power to confer together. A number of localities might appear where there would be enough to constitute meetings for religious worship and the establishment of these meetings might be the means of saving many to our fold, and of securing to them and their descendants the inestimable blessings derived from mingling with their fellow professors in spiritual worship.

We feel that the over-shadowing presence of Heavenly love has continued over the several sittings of the meeting, strengthening us in our desire to transact the affairs of the church in harmony, for the honor of the Great Head.

We close in near fellowship, and remain your friends.

Signed by direction and on behalf of the meeting.

EMMOR ROBERTS, *Clerk.*

FROM PHILADELPHIA YEARLY MEETING OF WOMEN FRIENDS, HELD BY ADJOURNMENTS FROM THE 14TH OF FIFTH-MONTH TO THE 18TH OF THE SAME, INCLUSIVE, 1888.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—As we have listened to the reading of your epistle, together with those from other Yearly Meetings, the fountain of grateful feeling has been stirred that the avenue of communication is kept unobstructed, and by this means we speak of our love for one another, of the work in which we are engaged, and of that earnest devotional feeling which recognizes the presence of the Divine Spirit as the enlivening power which directs into all good.

A more than usual degree of solemnity seemed to cover our body as we assembled this year, and the absence of departed ones who have faithfully shared the responsibilities of the Society, and have now passed from our earthly presence, seemed to clothe our spirits with a sense of loss; but the expression was given that if we would draw in quiet thought and prayer toward our Heavenly Father a sweet submission would be experienced, and a feeling of thankfulness would arise with the consciousness that, as they had been a strength and blessing to us in the past their memory would be an incentive to greater faithfulness and well doing in the future.

We cannot be true Friends unless we examine for ourselves the several requirements which the Society makes upon us. At the foundation is the duty of attending our meetings for worship and discipline; the Father has promised that He will give us that knowledge of Himself that will bring salvation to the soul; therefore we have no need of any other teacher. True worship is an individual work; it is the bowing down of the soul, a consecration of our spirits to that of the Divine; it is the petition of each soul according to its needs.

The future of our Society depends upon the religious training of the children; and mothers have been earnestly pleaded with that they trust not this sacred duty to the keeping of others, but as they themselves draw near to the fountain of spiritual life they gather their little ones with them; it can never be too early to establish in the heart and mind a love for the truth. Doctrines may vary, but the truth is unchangeable; to know the right and perform it is what is required of us all, and if even a *child* be faithful in the little, more will be made manifest. Let us also cherish in them that reverence and respect for Christian experience which refines and elevates the growing mind.

Our hearts are rejoiced that you too are working against the prominent evils of intemperance and impurity in their many forms, feeling that our Heavenly Father is calling us to exert our influence in hastening the day when these evils will be forever blotted from the land.

There has been a wide spread concern among us that the *principle* of plainness enjoined by our discipline may be understood in its broadest application of attire which will enable women to do their work in their families and in the world unfettered by a dress which cripples their energies; it will manifest itself in a simplicity of speech which is characterized by absolute sincerity and truthfulness. Freed from many of the hindrances which the care for the outward imposes on women in these days, there is room made for a higher development of all our powers—physical, mental and spiritual, and the

testimonies which we feel called upon to bear will be borne with greater dignity and force.

The presence of Friends from other Yearly Meetings we gratefully acknowledge, and a feeling of thankfulness has covered us that in all our deliberations, amid diversity of opinions, a spirit of cheerful concession and loving harmony has prevailed.

Signed by the direction and on behalf of the meeting, by
MARGARETTA WALTON, *Clerk*.

FROM BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS, MEN'S BRANCH, HELD BY
ADJOURNMENTS FROM THE 31ST OF TENTH-MONTH, TO THE 4TH OF
ELEVENTH-MONTH, INCLUSIVE, 1887.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—On reading the epistles from the Yearly Meetings with which we are in correspondence, we rejoiced in our hearts, that Friends of the several Yearly Meetings were bound together so nearly and dearly in the bonds of Christian love, to promote the cause of truth and righteousness.

We have been favored with the company of many Friends from other Yearly Meetings, whose counsels of encouragement and gospel labors, have been strengthening to us. Thankful to the good Father for this renewed evidence of regard, in thus sending His servants to “stir up the pure mind by way of remembrance,” we sincerely hope the good seed sown may not have fallen upon stony ground, but that it may prove fruitful of good results.

A concern arose in the Meeting that our Monthly Meetings should use diligence in ascertaining the residence of such of their members as may have removed beyond their limits, in order that they may still retain an oversight over them, and extend aid to them if way should open therefor.

While engaged in the consideration of the state of Society as shown by the answers to the queries, a vein of gospel love seemed opened and much salutary counsel was given forth.

It appeared that the moral condition of our members has not deteriorated; and as true morality is ever a fruit of spiritual life, we sincerely hope our religion is not barren of good results, but to rest in a false security is ever dangerous. We therefore hope that all our members may continue to “press forward to the mark of the prize of the high calling of God, in Christ Jesus, our Lord.”

We were exhorted to diligent attendance of all our meetings, and drawing our minds away from material affairs when so gathering for social religious worship, striving for a more deep-

ly devotional feeling, and a more spiritual conception of Divine worship, resting in the peaceable kingdom of the Heavenly Jerusalem, we should "hear the shout of the King" in our midst, and be reminded of the unequivocal and peculiar blessing promised those gathering in His name; as also the impressive testimony of this form of worship by one convinced by its power; "when," said Robert Barclay, "I came into the silent assemblies of God's people, I felt a secret power that touched my heart, and, as I gave way to it, I found the evil in me weakening and the good rising up."

Our testimony to love was presented as perhaps the most important, being the foundation of all.

As we draw near to the inexhaustible fountain of divine love, man's true Christian relationship and duties are apparent.

It is as a perennial feast whereat he will be strengthened to perform his duty; "first to God, next to his Society and then to the world around." And this being so, our Society will be enabled to work aright, and effectually in the direction of the great moral movements of the world in this age.

We are inspired with fresh hope to believe there is at this time, an awakening to a deeper sense of the need there is of working in accord with the spirit of the declaration of the blessed Jesus; "My Father worketh hitherto, and I work."

We are much encouraged to see that many of the principles for which our Society has been striving for years, are at last being recognized and appreciated. Even at this very time there is at our Nation's Capitol a delegation from across the deep, whose desire and object is to establish a system of arbitration, that peace between Nations may be perpetuated.

It was a cause of much regret that some of our members still continue the sale of spirituous liquors, under the opinion that it is necessary to the success of their business, apparently losing sight of the fact that a wrong of any kind, can never prove a permanent success.

More faith in the providence of God, and the promises His anointed servants have made in His name, that when we obey His commandments we shall be provided for, it is believed, would dispel this delusion, and preserve us from the evils so often following such sales, and tend to the good of the community in which we live.

We think our First-day schools have been productive of good and the afternoon devoted to the younger members of the Society in connection therewith, was both an interesting and instructive occasion.

With a salutation of love, we are your friends.

Signed by direction, and on behalf of Baltimore Yearly Meeting of Friends. EDW. STABLER, JR., *Clerk*.

FROM BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS, WOMEN'S BRANCH, HELD
IN BALTIMORE, BY ADJOURNMENTS FROM THE 31ST OF TENTH-MONTH, TO
THE 4TH OF ELEVENTH-MONTH, INCLUSIVE, 1887.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—Truly the perusal of your acceptable epistle was attended with life and power, evincing a deep concern in progressing in every good word and work. You have looked to the Lord and “to the power of His might” for help, and have not trusted to man.

We have been favored with an uncommonly large Yearly Meeting and have many ministering Friends in attendance who are burden bearers indeed; these have held up our hands by strengthening us with the word of encouragement and cheer. They with you are earnest workers in their Master's cause, evincing by their Christian, self-denying, consistent lives, that they bear fruit in their day and generation.

Much tender counsel to wait on our Heavenly Father, that our strength may be renewed, was given us.

“How are thy servants blessed, Oh Lord,
How sure is their defence,
Almighty wisdom is their guide,
There stay, omnipotence.”

What a privilege that we have access to the great source of all good, to the fount of living water where we may quench our undying thirst and be instructed in that which brings peace.

Peter said to Jesus, “To whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life.”

Your interest in the great topics of the day, temperance, philanthropic labor, and a purer literature, was very encouraging, and your systematic plan of labor arrests our most thoughtful attention, being well worthy of consideration on our part and that of other Yearly Meetings making efforts of a similar nature.

It is only they who have been partakers of the blood of the Lamb, or have felt the life of Christ in their souls, the power of resurrection, who will be set free from the law of sin and death. It will bring them into the glorious liberty of the children of God and they can hear the voice of Him who speaks as never man spake filling their hearts with love, restraining them from wandering in forbidden paths, and leading them to walk in that straight and narrow way which leads to life and removes all impurity from the heart.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the meeting.

ANNA F. MATTHEWS, *Clerk.*

FROM OHIO YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS, HELD AT MT. PLEASANT, FROM THE 27TH OF EIGHTH-MONTH, TO THE 30TH OF THE SAME, INCLUSIVE.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—The reading of your excellent epistle, again produced a feeling of reciprocal attachment towards our brethren in other portions of our vineyard of labor. Our annual gatherings are especially useful in bringing together minds from various localities, who have been accustomed to a somewhat routine form and expression, who by mingling with those from other localities become mutually strengthened thereby.

Our different testimonies have been introduced and discussed in a candid, brotherly feeling, always being willing to grant to others the same privilege which we claim for ourselves.

The First-day school association held very interesting meetings, wherein through epistolary correspondence we were confirmed in the belief that this noble instrumentality was retaining our youth within the fold of our Society.

The practice of collecting our families together and sitting down in silent meditation was spoken of as being one of the most productive means for good, thereby instilling within their tender, susceptible minds, the grand principle of silent introversion of spirit, which in after years, may be one great means of them going forth battling against the great evils of their day and time.

A proposition has been received from one of our Quarters proposing to so change our discipline, that those who have long absented themselves from our Society, and who have afterwards become objects of charity, that Monthly Meeting may have the liberty of discrimination whether they are worthy of our aid or otherwise.

The condition of the inebriate has claimed our sympathy. Great efforts are made in many localities to at least check this growing evil by the enactments of villages and townships prohibiting the sale thereof within their limits; also a caution is held forth that during the great contest which is soon to take place between the political parties, that we look well to our actions, that we do not contribute our mite towards the perpetuation of the evils of intemperance.

The time occupied in reading and answering the queries was an interesting occasion; that relating to the attendance of our meeting was believed to be of especial importance, in our time, when there is such a wide spread idea prevailing that it is unnecessary to spend so much of our time in assembling together for public worship. Our query respecting our having due regard for the rights of those in our employ, was believed to be far reaching in its applications to our every day life, and

this with all the remaining queries are well calculated to enliven our minds with the inestimable importance of an enquiry whether we are faithfully maintaining our varied testimonies, or whether we are delinquent.

The committee on Indian affairs made a report, which, under the circumstances in which we have been placed, was satisfactory. The committee was continued and enjoined to embrace every right opportunity to advance the best interest of this much injured people.

We gratefully acknowledge the presence of Friends from other Yearly Meetings whose counsel and labor have met the witness in our hearts, making us glad they have been with us.

We salute you in love as children of our Heavenly Father, and particularly so as brethern of the same household of faith and are your friends.

Signed in and by direction of the Meeting.

JOSEPH S. HARTLEY, *Clerk*.

FROM OHIO YEARLY MEETING OF WOMEN FRIENDS, HELD BY ADJOURNMENTS
FROM THE 25TH TO 30TH OF EIGHTH-MONTH, INCLUSIVE, 1888.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—Your letter addressed to us, came clothed in love, purity and truth. How precious it is to our souls, 'tis hard to find words to express, but love reaches out to love, and hearts beat in unison with kindred hearts. Though many of us are strangers to you by name and face, we have the precious assurance we are the children of one Divine, yea Adorable Father, who never forgets that we are His children, whose ear is so near, we have only to whisper, Father, and He is ready to hear. Oh the love, the sleepless care of such a protector!

Close to Him, even in His shadow, is Christ our elder brother, from whose lips there is always a word for the despairing, words of cheer for the fainting, and strength for the weak ones. A dearly loved brother, whom no act of ours can cast from us, ever pursuing our wandering feet, wooing us back to the Father's House.

We feel that we have met in great love, careful have been our deliberations, and all seemed animated with an ardent desire to do all they could to further the interest of the Society. To hold up Friends' principles in their simplicity, their unchanging goodness and love, again to the members and to the world.

Meeting as we do in the house of historic interest, and knowing the time was when even its ample walls could not enclose all who made their yearly pilgrimage to this hallowed spot, the vacant seats seem to cry out in grief, yet we know that the Father is surely watching over the few who have assembled in His name, for so He hath promised, and though the world pass away, and time end, His word endureth forever.

Though we be few in number, we have this to comfort us, all seem alive to the call, and ready to work in love for the Divine Master. We have fewer hands to grasp in friendly greeting, but a clasp oft repeated in which we know heart answereth heart, and love binds all, makes amends.

To the cry which goes up from Macedonia for bread, the bearers of the loaves and fishes responded most generously, giving forth abundantly.

The reading of the epistles was truly edifying, fraught as they were with love and truth. The meeting of the First-day school association was scarcely less interesting than that of the Yearly Meeting itself. The deliberations were thoughtful and prayerful. We feel that we have not yet fully comprehended the good that is to arise from the First-day school effort.

The temperance cause has claimed our serious attention, although there seems to be but few avenues for work within our limits, except it be by individual labor. Then let us all be faithful to the manifestations of duty.

With that love which arises from deep feeling we are your sisters.

FROM INDIANA YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS, HELD AT RICHMOND, INDIANA,
FROM THE 26TH TO THE 29TH OF NINTH-MONTH, INCLUSIVE, 1887.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—Assembled together for the transaction of such business as the interests of Society require, we are not unmindful of those in other fields of our heritage, who are striving to uphold the truth as it comes to us through the holy scriptures, by the teachings of the pure in all ages of the world and by the revelation which is the inheritance of those who by faith and obedience hear the voice divine that speaks to the soul, and whose language is understood by them. It is the same that in time past spake to the fathers by the Prophets and is made manifest to us, for he changeth not.

This fountain rock upon which we rest cannot be moved without bringing destruction to the fair fabric which Christian

effort has reared. That which is built upon the shifting sands falls when the storm beats against it. We appreciate the evidence of your regard for us, co-laborers with you, in endeavoring to give permanence to the testimonies we hold as true. So in like manner accept this our offering of Christian sympathy and love for you.

In all our deliberations, harmony and brotherly love have prevailed. Much counsel tending to unite us more closely as a religious body, has been given, and the ministry has been favored to be a baptizing power in our midst. While we regret to find that we have not reached the ideal of righteousness that we greatly desire, we are still comforted in the thought that we are nearing it. The great evils of our day, affecting the social and moral status of society at large, claim our serious thought. To contend successfully against these is the unsolved problem of the hour. We trust, however, by faithfulness to revealed duty, that our efforts in the philanthropic field will not be in vain. Little by little the world's ideal advances. Truth, as we comprehend it, is progressive. We do not grasp its outlines in their fullness, nor comprehend it in its vastness. We see as through a glass darkly. We know only in part. This should teach us the lesson of humility. The distrust of self, the trust in that still small voice that speaks to the soul, and, if heeded, directs aright. Reason, unaided, gropes its way in darkness until the Divine illumination reveals the hidden truth. We call this the light within, and so it is, for it is this that makes manifest. May we learn wisdom, though it be by the mistakes of others; and by the tests of living experience renew our faith in the truths we have proclaimed to the world. The Apostle exhorts us to be able to give every man that asketh, a reason for the hope that is within us, so that we can truly say, "In him was life and the life was the light of men." It is this Christ of God to whom we open, that enters into and cleanses the heart, and directs us in the way of life. This is the light our fathers professed, and that we acknowledge. If, as it is often said, we are decreasing in numbers, may it not result from our seeking by outward means to accomplish that which heartfelt earnestness and dedication of soul alone can give? If we would be foremost in the way of spiritual progress, are we not called to a closer walk with God? Have not the allurements of the world dazzled our eyes with their splendor and turned them away from him "who taketh away the sin of the world?" I pray not that Thou take them out of the world, said Jesus, but that Thou keep them from the evil. In the trials of life, its burdens, cares, and perplexities, let us seek first the kingdom of God and the righteousness thereof, and then the world will not have dominion over us.

What are the fruits of this kingdom? Are they not the overcoming of evil by the power of good? By the human co-operating with the Divine mind, there is witnessed the new birth, the spiritual life, the consciousness of a foreignness of sins, the "fellowship with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ," being made thereby joint heirs with him. This is the victory that overcometh the world. May we faint not, but press forward until this requisite for efficient labor is attained.

We are admonished that this is an age of deep research. Systems of government and of ethics alike, are being tested in the crucible of exhaustive thought. Evangelical conceptions wrought out by the fathers, fail to satisfy the longings of the soul. A new order of things is imminent. Comes there not this call to us, "Feed my sheep, feed my lambs?" Shall we not, putting on the "whole armor of God, proclaim the living truth of man's salvation," and this not by the crucified, but by the risen and glorious Christ, whose indwelling spirit overcomes the world. "Lo, I am with you always even unto the end of the world," is the inspiring thought that gives potency to effort. God in Christ is reconciling all things unto himself. Creeds and confessions of faith that are founded only in human judgment cannot stand. Mythologies and misconceptions of scriptural teachings must give place to the Christ within our hope of glory. Why yield to discouragement? Rather let us thank God that through all the mutations and divisions of others he has kept us one undivided people, with no creed to restrain the outreach of earnest thought or check the aspirations of the soul.

Brothers beloved! The whitening fields admonish us that the harvest is near. "Thrust in thy sickle and reap," is the word of command that comes to each one of us. Obedient to this voice, let us gather the precious sheaves into the heavenly garner, and when our life's labor is ended we will hear the blessed "Thou hast been faithful in a few things I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

On behalf of Indiana Yearly Meeting.

DAVIS FURNAS, *Clerk.*

FROM INDIANA YEARLY MEETING OF WOMEN FRIENDS, HELD NINTH-MONTH
26TH TO 29TH OF SAME, INCLUSIVE, 1887.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting of Friends:

DEAR FRIENDS:—"Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend," and it has seemed to us it might truly be added, that in like manner do the words of loving greeting from our sisters stir the depths of our hearts.

Truly it is in the "silence of all flesh" that the spirit most surely and most speedily hears the voice of the Divine Father, either in commendation or reproof; in calls to labor, or patient waiting; and it is to these precious seasons that we owe the strength that enables us to go forth and labor effectively in our Heavenly Father's vineyard. It matters not whether our work be in the ministry or among the down-trodden and oppressed, these communings with Him are alike necessary, that we may be imbued with that wisdom and strength which will insure the fruition of our hopes.

We also recognize the great good to be obtained from the study of the scriptures in our First-day schools. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works," and while there may be much that we are not able to comprehend and which *may ever seem to us as error*, still we must remember that only that which we have in a measure *experienced*, can we fully understand, and what may at one time be in utter darkness to us, at another time under a fuller experience or a *deeper baptism* may come out in such *bold relief* that we wonder it could ever have been hidden. We may say we could study them alone, but we are all benefited by coming together for *silent* waiting upon God, so are we enriched by *talking* together, each gathering from the other's store-house. If we study them *aright*, God will surely bless the means employed.

It is very encouraging to us to know that a live interest exists amongst you in regard to philanthropic work. We believe that Friends everywhere are fully alive to the necessity of diligent labor in this direction.

Temperance and prison reform work have for a long time enlisted the sympathy of Friends, but we think they are beginning to see as never before, the need for a work that might be called "prevention" rather than "correction." If the money and labor that will be spent in the next few years to break up intemperance and reform criminals, could be spent right now in taking care of the children, many of them little "waifs of the nation," from whose ranks the drunkards and criminals are

largely recruited, we might at the end of the period be able to turn many of the prisons into school houses, and the alms houses into farms, where homeless boys might be able to more than support themselves. Is there not a work in this direction?

We have been much interested in the condition of the colored schools in the south, under the care of Friends, and our subordinate meetings have been advised to give such aid as they can render. We are also encouraged to give such assistance as we can, to Friends in the far west towards the erection of meeting houses.

We have been blessed with the attendance of Friends from a distance who are very acceptably with us, and the ministry of a dear sister far advanced in years, and that of a loving brother also ripe in experience, added to that of the faithful ones within our own limits, has fallen upon our hearts like dew upon the parched ground, making the desert to blossom as the rose. It has indeed been a season of great refreshing, and the testimony of a dear mother in Israel to the work that lies before *us as women* is precious to us.

In conclusion, we refer with comfort and consolation to the prayer which Jesus made for his disciples of old, "Father, I pray not that Thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil that is in the world." In Christian love we bid you farewell.

Signed in and by direction of the meeting.

MARY W. COOK, *Clerk*.

First-Day School Association.

MINUTES.

The Illinois First-day School Association of Friends, met in its fourteenth annual session Ninth-month 15th, 1888.

The assistant clerk being absent, Emma Wilson was appointed for the present session.

Reports were received from both Prairie Grove and Blue River conferences from which we find that Clorinda Trueblood, Henry H. Nichols and others were appointees to attend this association, who were all present, producing reports that show increased interest. There are 317 scholars enrolled; average attendance 227; teachers 22. Friends' Lesson Leaves used by all.

Epistles were received from Genesee, Philadelphia, Ohio, Indiana and Baltimore, which were read. To draft replies we appoint Clarence Mills, Mary C. White, Henry Nichols, Mary G. Atherton, Mary Poulson, Gertrude Wilson, Samuel Coale, Lydia Hartley and Addison Plummer, who are to report to next session.

The delegates appointed to attend the General Conference to be held at Bloomfield, Ontario, report no one attended, and the clerk informs us that she neglected to send any report owing to sickness and death in her family. This association, entering into sympathy with both delinquents, directs the clerk to send a reason for the failure of both to the executive committee of General Conference.

The subject of raising a fund to send delegates to the General Conference was considered and resulted in the appointment of a committee who are to confer on the matter and report their judgment next year. The following are said committee:

Thomas H. Trueblood, Lydia Hartley, Edward Coale, Benjamin Nichols, Abel Mills, Eliza Canby, Mary G. Smith, Jonathan Plummer, Anna Wilson, James Heacock, and Isaiah Lightner.

The clerk, on behalf of Executive Committee, reports that the epistles were corrected, signed and sent as directed. —

The delegates are requested to confer together at the close of this session and report to next, the names of persons to serve this body for clerk and assistant the coming year.

Having transacted all business coming before us this session with interest and Christian fellowship, we adjourn to meet on Third-day evening at half past seven o'clock.

MARY G. SMITH, } *Clerks.*
EMMA WILSON, }

The First-day School Association met in its second session Ninth-month 18th, 1888, near the time adjourned to.

Thomas E. Hogue, on behalf of the delegates, reports the name of Mary G. Smith as clerk, and Mary Tomlinson as assistant, who being separately considered and united with, are appointed to that service for the ensuing year.

The committee to draft replies to epistles, produced six which were read and directed to be placed in charge of Executive Committee for their correction, etc., then be sent to their respective destinations.

The reading of the epistles elicited some pertinent counsel and we were encouraged to press on and not give up on account of no visible fruit, but in the All Father's own good time the reward will be manifest.

The subject of the practical needs of the First-day Schools was brought up and we were reminded that the teaching of duty in our daily lives, by acts, will impress our children with a greater power for good, and will be of more benefit to them than any other thought; also the co-operation of the parents as a necessity to the success of our work, was emphasized.

This association feeling a deep sympathy for, and fellowship with the First-day School of Chicago and East Jordan Executive Meetings, directs the clerk to invite them by minutes to report to the next Quarterly Conference, that we may feel their strength to aid this body, in the work.

A sister from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, gave us an interesting description of their plan of teaching, which was done in various ways, partly by object lessons, recitations, &c, but to be careful to teach love, that this be in the home too; and both co-operating together we will succeed.

Having transacted all business belonging to this association, and resting in the power of Divine wisdom to lead and direct to all truth, we conclude to meet next year on Seventh-day preceding our Yearly Meeting, at 3 o'clock.

MARY G. SMITH, }
MARY TOMLINSON, } *Clerks.*

✧ EPISTLES. ✧

To Illinois First-day School Association of Friends.

DEAR FRIENDS:—We feel drawn to address you at this time, in that love which we believe is the foundation of the work in which we, to some extent with yourselves, are engaged, viz.: the gathering in of the children, with the desire of calling their attention to, and inspiring a love of those principles which will tend to develop and strengthen the higher and better qualities of mind and heart, and so lead to such a course of action as to promote their present happiness, and insure their eternal welfare. And in order to succeed in this, we realize more and more the necessity of the "First-day school teacher," or leader, receiving a qualification and anointing from the Divine teacher, depending as little as may be on the "text-books," "lessons" or "leaves," introduced and adopted as helps, but rather seeking a fresh inspiration for the hour.

The reports from the schools within our limits (held in the different localities where it is practicable) were all satisfactory and encouraging, evincing we trust that some good has been accomplished. And this not alone confined to the younger portion of society, but we feel that all have been strengthened and encouraged by the awakening and manifestation of love and interest on the part of each for the other, promoting a unity and harmony which is visible in the Yearly Meeting as well as the First-day schools.

There has been but one session of our Association held at this time, but it is thought to have been more than usually in-

teresting, as practical subjects bearing upon our present and future interests have claimed our attention, rather than a very extended review of the past, which can only be of value, either in the way of inciting to renewed diligence, or endeavoring to avoid its mistakes and failures. The work of the present day and time is that with which we have to do.

We have had the company of members from other Yearly Meetings, whose presence has been truly gratifying and encouraging, as well as the epistles received from our sister associations, all evincing a continued interest in the one great cause of the promotion of "truth and righteousness in the earth."

With sincere desires that we all may know a growth in that which tends to our advancement in a higher, better and purer life, we remain your friends.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the First-day School Association of Genesee Yearly Meeting of Friends.

SAMUEL P. ZAVITZ, }
ALBERTA WILSON, } *Clerks.*

To the First-day School Association of Illinois Yearly Meeting.

DEAR FRIENDS:—As a token of our sympathy with you in your labors in the First-day school cause, and as a means of conveying to you in some degree our sense of the importance and necessity of the work in which we are mutually engaged, and with a feeling of thankfulness that we think we see through the First-day school, indications of the dawning of a brighter day for our Society, we at this time address you.

At any time within the past thirty years we have heard unceasingly of the decline of the Society of Friends. The admitted fact has caused much and real lamentation. Explanations of the fact have been many and mostly unsatisfactory. Of remedies proposed none have as yet proved effectual to reach the result of resuscitation; although we believe the influence of First-day school effort has proved sufficient to arrest the *downward* tendency.

It is, of course, saddening to us attached to the Society through association, through traditional influences, or through conviction of its principles that the state of things existing *does* exist. It is not pleasant to think that while the growth of other denominations has kept pace with the growth of our country, and multiplied churches, and ministers, and teachers, and membership many fold; the Society of Friends almost alone among religious organizations has barely held its own.

Nor does it help the ease to attribute all this result to the lack of individual faithfulness; for then the question at once recurs, why the lack of individual faithfulness? A remedy for the one might be, probably would be, a remedy for the other. Where is the remedy, and who shall help us to find it?

No one, probably, to whom these words may come will admit that for this lack of growth our principles are responsible. We are all ready to say in fact that they are not.

Is the error then in our organization? Is it possible that, as a body, we have been omitting duties or neglecting agencies in promulgating our principles that have in other societies been found fruitful of good? Can it be that we have slept while others were out in the vineyard? Can it be that with all our gettings we have failed to get wisdom?

Let us face the facts like men, without flinching. With earnestness of purpose and directness of aim, with courage born of the truth, and confidence in our faith and reliance upon God, let us if we can find the remedy, apply it.

Other societies recognizing long ago, the need, the usefulness and the wisdom of *training* and *informing* their youth entered upon the task as a duty; gathered their children into Sunday schools and conducted these schools with system, zeal and ability. Their best minds wrote books for the young, published papers for the young, prepared lessons for the young, and are still doing so. Those in their ranks gifted by nature or by culture, many of wide and extensive learning, shared with the ministers the task and responsibility of instruction. As one example of the general appreciation by others of the importance of this work, think of the highest legal functionary of England—its Lord High Chancellor varying his judicial duties with the routine cares of a Sunday school.

Thus then have other denominations fostered and promoted the gathering and instruction of their youth. The schools have in turn become the nurseries of the church, and the church has grown. Our Society till recently has neglected the gathering or the systematic instruction of its children. It has not grown. Is there or is there not a relation between these facts? Is there or not an important lesson to us from their statement? We think there can be but one answer, and in the answer is the remedy.

Whoso would repair the waste places in our Zion must begin with the youth, and be willing to work and to wait. Not in one decade nor perhaps in one generation can the work of restoration be accomplished. Neither is it to be accomplished except through intelligence, zeal and enthusiasm; and not even with these alone. Merely formal teaching will be powerless. "Except the Lord build the house they labor in vain that build

it." Teaching addressed merely to the minds of our children will fail; but teaching which appeals to the heart; which quickens the moral sensibilities; which uplifts their souls, never fails and never is forgotten.

And how may we secure such teaching, earnest, intelligent, zealous in the cause of truth, reaching not only the minds, but the hearts also of our children? Only in one way. And we earnestly plead with every teacher that in all his efforts, he constantly seek the Divine guidance which teaches as never man taught. Mental gifts are useful; concerted effort wise; but absorption into the soul of the teacher of the thought that his mission is of God, and for God, and for the eternal good of His children will alone make the teacher's work vital and fruitful.

When we can secure this teaching, we shall probably have no reason longer to mourn over the decline of our Society, whose principles are to us the embodiment of truth; but better than that, we shall be leading our youth into paths of righteousness and into a walk God. To this end let us all labor.

We have had at this, the annual gathering of our association, the acceptable company of co-workers from other Yearly Meetings whose presence has been encouraging and inspiring, while the kindly messages of love and sympathy from our sister associations have been most welcome and gratifying.

The series of meetings held by us have been large and enthusiastic, betokening increased interest in the work, and we bring our proceedings to a close with a feeling of hope and confidence which we have never before so strongly felt.

With salutations of love, we remain your friends.

Signed by direction of the First-day School Association of New York Yearly Meeting.

JOS. A. BOGARDUS, }
CAROLINE J. TITUS, } *Clerks.*

To Illinois First-Day School Association:

DEAR FRIENDS:—As we meet again, after another season of work in the First-day school cause, we feel deeply grateful for the blessings of the past, and hopeful for the opportunities of the future; and with a full human measure of the boundless Divine love and sympathy, we send you greeting.

On such an occasion as this, when so many earnest spirits are gathered together in friendly communion, the prevailing feeling is one of encouragement; and we trust that you, our co-laborers, may also have abundant reason for the same feeling. Yet we recognize the fact that this should not induce us to

relax our efforts for the furtherance of our chosen cause. Our course must be ever onward. These meetings are as halting places in the journey, when we may look around to see where we stand, and look forward over the ground to discover the best means of reaching the summits, only to be attained by high endeavor.

Acting on this idea, our Executive Committee has given special attention to the question of how to make our Association meetings more interesting and practical in their help to teachers. Essays and discussions have been invited on such topics as the object and right use of Lesson Leaves, the proper qualifications of a teacher, and the duties of a superintendent. Many of our Unions also have executive committees, which are endeavoring to do the same work for them. The best opportunity is thus afforded for an interchange of views and a comparison of methods by those who have had practical experience, and we trust that much good will result therefrom.

Believing in the fatherhood of God, His omnipresence and His immediate teaching of His children, we sometimes ask, Why should there be need for us to labor in the First-day school?

A partial answer may be, that although children are impressed by the leadings of the light within, they are very susceptible to the influence of those around them. We find that some one shapes the religious characters of our children, and it should be our care and work that this shaping be what we consider conducive to their highest welfare. It should be our province as teachers to *lead* rather than to teach; to be a support and a guide to the faltering footsteps of the tender spirit; to bring it into a full faith in the Father's loving kindness; and to help it to a fuller knowledge of the Divine truth which shall make it free.

In this way we may also be able to secure the interest of the children in the great temperance movement which is sweeping over our country. They should become fully acquainted with all the moral and physical aspects of the question; for we must look to them to be the standard bearers of the future. They should be prepared to come forward as the worthy representatives of a higher development, physical as well as intellectual and spiritual. Full spiritual development, that perfection which has been set up for us as the goal of our spiritual life, can scarcely be attained in an imperfect body. What nobler work can the church engage in than that of securing for posterity, bodies that are healthy, vigorous and undefiled, a fit abiding place for an immortal soul!

As we look back over the past year of our First-day school work, there come before us many pleasant memories and asso-

ciations in connection therewith. But withal, the work seems but begun; and the lessons we have endeavored to inculcate seem but the preface to the chapters that are to follow. There is no completeness to our work. It must keep pace with the ever-widening circles of moral and spiritual progress. The more we try to impress the importance of living out the principles and testimonies of our Society, the more clearly do we see therein the vital elements of a true religion. Know thyself; and as we come to do so, we shall be enabled to become our true selves, as the master intended we should be. For what higher religion can there be than that which teaches the need of living so close to the Father that His will manifest in us may be obeyed? Then as we come more and more into harmony with him, and with the great laws of our being, we shall move onward and upward, nearer to the fulfillment of our destiny.

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Association for the promotion of First-day schools within the limits of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, at the meeting held Fifth-month 16, 1888.

S. RAYMOND ROBERTS, } *Clerks.*
CLARA B. MILLER, }

FROM BALTIMORE YEARLY MEETING, THROUGH ITS CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON FIRST-DAY SCHOOLS.

To Illinois Yearly Meeting First-day School Association:

DEAR FRIENDS:—As time rolls on we are again reminded that you are about to assemble as an Association in the interests of First-day schools. Our hearts prompt us to greet you as co-workers, and to pray that the bountiful Giver of good gifts may deal out generously to you of His abundance. In this part of His vineyard, the Lord has allowed His servants ample cause for congratulation during these late years, and, we think, our work has been to a good degree sanctioned by His approval.

At the last Yearly Meeting there were present, owing to some degree to the call of the Yearly Meeting through its central committee, an unusually large number of our young people. Their presence and their participation in the concerns of the meeting tended very much to enliven the sittings thereof, and to tighten the bonds that should always bind together into a common brotherhood, all members of the Society of Friends. The ingathering to the youth's meeting on First-day afternoon was an occasion of great satisfaction to all who participated

therein, or were present thereat. That meeting was the first general one for which the Yearly Meeting had provided by official call, and made possible, by changing certain clauses of the discipline inconsistent therewith. When the First-day school workers then and there assembled found the great interest that was manifested by our workers of all ages, and the earnest desire of the children to reach up to the high expectations of all lovers of our Society, feelings of thankfulness and renewed strength came to them, coupled with the earnest prayer that they might be found not wanting in anything that might be required of them.

At the opening the meeting settled into, and rested devoutly under, the solemn silence that seemed to draw all into a true appreciation of the abundant love and goodness of God. Great care had been felt that the children should feel that this *was* a youth's meeting, not one for them at which they should be silent listeners. It and its results have brought comfort to many minds, and we all look forward with feelings of hope for a rich spiritual treat on the occasion of the second meeting on Tenth-month 28th, next.

Truly it seems to us that we have been greatly enriched by these First-day school opportunities, and many of us look back with feelings of regret that, for so long a time, the Society of Friends were satisfied to be without them. The harvest from the planting in our First-day school domain has indeed been golden to many of us.

One feature of our work that especially calls us to rejoice, is the devotional growth thereof. It is becoming more and more worshipful, while the intellectual cultivation incident thereto, and inseparably connected therewith, is also promoted none the less. To produce the best results for a human being symmetrical must be the growth physically, mentally, and spiritually, and unless our educational workers in all fields, recognize this fact, there will be a falling short of the greatest possibilities.

We continue to feel grateful for the strength afforded us by the Meeting's care for our work. It gives us confidence to have our Monthly Meetings beside us in our labors, represented officially, in the appointment of teachers and officers, and present at our First-day school meetings. It encourages teachers and scholars alike when they have these friendly influences about them, and seems to impress upon the children more forcibly than anything else has ever done that they are an essential element of the Society of Friends.

Let us then move forward unhesitatingly on the line over which duty calls us, ever trusting to that Divine arm which is constantly beneath to support us.

We earnestly hope that your efforts to "mind the Light" and

to do fully the Master's bidding may be blessed. With continued and increasing wishes for your eternal welfare, and hope that from your feast may come crumbs of comfort and help to your distant fellow-workers, we remain your friends.

On behalf of Baltimore Yearly Meeting Central Committee
on First-day Schools.

ELI M. LAMB, *Chairman*.

FROM THE FIRST-DAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION OF OHIO YEARLY MEETING.

To the Illinois First-Day School Association:

DEAR FRIENDS:—As we have listened to the kind epistles from other associations, we have realized more fully than ever before, how near a common purpose, a working together in a good cause, brings all true hearts.

During the sessions of our association, we were feelingly and earnestly urged to labor faithfully in planting the principles of our loved Society in the minds and hearts of the rising generation, that they may be able to give a scriptural and plausible reason for the faith that is in them. The reports from the schools within our limits, gave evidence of increased interest in the work; and furnished a stimulus for renewed zeal on the part of the workers.

We are looking forward to the day when the work of the First-day school will be recognized as a part of the Yearly Meeting's work, feeling as many of us do, that if we would preserve and perpetuate the beautiful and simple principles of our Society, the First-day school must be placed upon a firmer footing, when each member may feel an equal responsibility for its welfare.

Our schools are few in number, and but one-half of those enrolled are members. Yet, while we may never be able to call them members of our "especial fold" we feel that surely good seed has been sown. We believe the First-day school to be a great power for good. In it we may instruct the searching minds of the children, in the beauty of a perfect life, and teach them that a true Christian character may ennoble the humblest field of labor.

We have been cheered by the presence of workers from other parts of the vineyard, and their words of encouragement have been a strength and stimulus to us in our seemingly weak condition. Yet, we have the assurance, that with continued earnestness, strength will be afforded from the never ceasing fountain.

Trusting that the good work in which we are mutually interested, may steadily grow in your midst, we are your friends.

Signed on behalf of Ohio First-day School Association, held Eighth-month 27th, 1888.

JOHN E. CARPENTER, }
MARIETTA HARTLEY, } *Clerks.*

To the First-day School Association of Illinois Yearly Meeting.

DEAR FRIENDS:—Again we are permitted to meet in our annual First-day School Association. Again we are uplifted and encouraged by the kindly words and loving counsel of dear Friends who are far removed and cheered by the presence of visiting Friends amongst us.

As one by one the years of our lives glide out into the past, carrying with them their record of wrong and of right, of failure and of success, we have been brought to realize more and more the tender love that is ever o'ershadowing us. How often when this overshadowing love has been poured out upon us we have failed to recognize the source from whence it came, and like the thoughtless little child who is absorbed with the bright toy in his hand, and all unmindful of the wealth of love underlying the little gift, so we have enjoyed many good gifts without realizing whose hand bestowed them. How often in the battle of life, when trials and temptations have come thick upon us, and we have almost felt it useless to continue the unequal strife, some kind friend has come to us with cheerful smile and words of encouragement, or a letter has been brought to us from some dear absent one filled with loving messages or kind, helpful suggestions, and we have been uplifted from our feelings of despair and enabled to take up the duties of life again with renewed strength and hope, and with feelings of gratitude to our friends, having forgotten that their kindness was only another manifestation of our Father's love to us. It is our earnest desire that we may be more and more sensible of this, our Father's protecting love toward us, and that we may come into a closer walk and into a fuller and freer communion with him in our daily life.

In our First-day school work, as everywhere in life, we meet with our trials, our temptations, and our discouragements, and the loving epistles from corresponding Friends are of untold good in uplifting and in strengthening us. Many hearts have

been raised in silent thankfulness to the Giver of all good and perfect gifts, for the gracious privilege of again meeting together and being thus cheered and strengthened in our work. It encourages us greatly to hear from the many flourishing First-day schools dotted here and there over our beautiful land, and to know that so many dear Friends are taking so much interest in the grand and glorious work of teaching the Holy Scriptures to the young Friends, for it seems that the First-day school is calculated to do *them* more good than the older Friends, though all may derive great benefit by attending. The First-day school is certainly a flower-strewn path with its many pleasant faces, greeting one another with sunny smiles on the first morning of each new week, leading them onward and upward to Him who says, "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of Heaven." Oh! let us lead the dear little ones to the First-day school that they may learn that *God is love* in word and in truth.

Their little minds, so free from toil and care, are fresh and clear, and ready to accept everything given them. How essential it is that they should be directed aright. When we consider the object of the First-day school, how the plastic minds of the little ones are brought into this the "nursery of the church"—as it has been called—to be molded by us for spheres of usefulness, for conditions of future happiness, we are brought to realize the importance of the work. There are bright little intellects, precious little human plants that have sprung up by the wayside, and are so overshadowed by thistles and thorns of ignorance and wrong, that no ray of the sunshine of pure spiritual life ever penetrates the cloud of their sin-darkened homes.

Who can measure the importance of the First-day school work for such as these? Again there are homes where the grinding heel of poverty crushes opportunities for cultivation of mind and of heart, where day after day the old struggle for existence is repeated, till the tortured brains of the weary parents hold no higher aim for their little ones than the supplying of their physical wants.

Other little ones are deprived of the proper spiritual training at home through the careless indifference of parents upon this subject.

Where shall these little ones go for this most important part of their education? The doors of our First-day schools stand open. Is it enough? We should go out into the highways and hedges if need be and gather them in. It is a work not alone for the superintendent and teachers. Each individual member should feel it his duty to do something toward making this a pleasant Sabbath home for the little wayfaring ones.

Of our example as First-day school workers, we can not speak too strongly. The little ones look up to their teachers as perfect; therefore how great the responsibility of a teacher. How necessary that he should pray without ceasing for Divine assistance to satisfy the little wondering eyes that look lovingly up into his! A harsh word from him would be like a cruel, biting frost, blackening the tender plants that have been set with such care, so that perhaps they will never survive. Let us teach these dear little ones that God is everywhere, that He is in every leaf and bud and flower—that He hath a presence and that you may see

“In the fold of the flower,
The leaf of the tree;
In the sun of the noon-day,
The star of the night;
In the storm-cloud of darkness,
The rainbow of light;
In the waves of the ocean,
The furrows of land,
In the mountain of granite,
The atom of sand.
Turn where ye may,
From the sky to the sod;
Where can ye gaze
That ye see not God?”

A good impression deeply engraven in the young mind is more precious far than gold, for it is something that can neither rust nor be stolen away. A Catholic priest once said, “give me the child until he is ten years old and he will not depart from my teachings.” So it is; those impressions made when we are quite young can *seldom* if ever be erased.

Our lives should teach them that it is not enough to do good, we must be good. It should make them feel that true worth is in *being* not *seeming*; and we know that we can only become such examples by being purified at the fountain of prayer, and our hearts must be overflowing with love, for

“He prayeth best who loveth best,
All things both great and small;
For the dear God who loveth us,
He made and loveth all.”

We use the Friends' Lesson Leaves in our schools and they are highly appreciated, though we have felt some dissatisfaction in regard to the explanations of the miracles.

We are pleased to hear of the temperance work among you. We have had frequent lessons on this subject and by both precept and example are endeavoring to instill into the young minds an abhorrence of this great evil. And we feel that in all

our work we must look to the true source of light for guidance.
And as the path of duty is made plain,

“May grace be given that we may walk therein,
Not like the hireling for his selfish gain;
With backward glances and reluctant tread,
Making a merit for his coward dread;
But cheerful in the light around us thrown,
Walking as one to pleasant service led;
Doing God’s will as if it were our own,
Trusting not in ours, but in His strength alone.”

Signed by direction and on behalf of Indiana First-day
School Association.

EMILY P. YEO,
BERTHA HALLOWELL, } *Clerks.*

Dates of Meetings.

ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING

Opens at 10 A. M. on the second Second-day before the last First-day in the Ninth-month of each year (or Ninth-month, 16, 1889.)

The Meeting of Ministers and Elders gathers at 10 A. M., on the Seventh-day preceding Yearly Meeting.

The Representative Committee meets at 8 A. M., of Second-day on which the Yearly Meeting opens.

Meeting for worship is held during Yearly Meeting week, at 10 A. M., on Fourth-day.

The Illinois First-day School Association meets at 3 o'clock, Seventh-day afternoon preceding Yearly Meeting, and at 8 P. M. on Third-day of Yearly Meeting week.

Blue River Quarterly Meeting is held at Benjaminville, McLean county, Illinois, at 10 A. M. on the fourth Seventh-day, in Second-month, and on the Seventh-day, one week preceding the Yearly Meeting in Ninth-month. At Blue River, Washington county, Indiana, on the fourth Seventh-day in the Fifth-month. At Clear Creek, Putnam county, Illinois, on the fourth Seventh-day in the Eleventh-month.

The Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders is held at 2 P. M. on the day preceding the Quarterly Meetings.

Blue River Quarterly First-day School Association, at 8 P. M. on Sixth-days preceding the Quarterly Meetings.

Blue River Monthly Meeting is held the first Seventh-day in each month. Meetings for worship on First and Fourth-days at 11 A. M.

Blue River Executive Meeting is held on the second Fourth-day in the First, Fourth, Eighth and Tenth months. Meetings for worship at 11 A. M.

Clear Creek Monthly Meeting is held on the Seventh-day following the first Fifth-day in each month. Meetings for worship on First and Fifth-days at 11 A. M.

Benjaminville Monthly Meeting is held at 11 A. M. on the second Seventh-day following the first Fifth-day in each month except in Ninth-month, when it is held on the first Seventh-day following the close of Yearly Meeting. Meetings for worship on First-day and on Fifth-days at 11 A. M.

East Jordan Executive Meeting is held on First-day following the third Seventh-day in Second, Fifth, Eighth and Eleventh months. Meetings for worship First-days at 11 A. M. Preparative Meetings is held at the conclusion of the Executive Meetings.

Chicago Executive Meeting is held on the second First-day in the Second, Fifth, Eighth and Eleventh months at 12 M. Meetings for worship on First-days at 10:45 A. M. Preparative Meetings is held on First-days, preceding Executive Meetings, at 12 M.

Indulged Meetings under the care of Clear Creek Monthly Meeting at Plainfield, Fulton county, Illinois, on every First-day at 11 A. M. At West Bureau, Bureau county, Illinois, on every First-day at 11 A. M.

Prairie Grove Quarterly Meeting is held on the first Seventh-day in Third, Sixth and Twelfth months, at 11 A. M., and on the Fifth-day preceding Yearly Meeting in Ninth-month at 10 A. M. Preparative meetings are held at 9:30 A. M. on the day of Quarterly Meetings.

Wapsienonoc Monthly Meeting is held on the last Seventh-day in each month. Even months at Highland and odd months at West Liberty, Iowa. Meetings for worship, First-day at West Liberty and Highland, at 11 A. M.

Marietta Monthly Meeting is held on the second Seventh-day in each month, at 2 P. M., except in the Ninth-month, when it is held on the first Seventh-day. Meetings for worship on First-days at 11 A. M. First-day School after meeting for worship.

Genoa Monthly Meeting is held on the third First-day in each month. Meetings for worship every First-day at 11 A. M.

Richland Monthly Meeting is held at Hoopeston, Illinois, on the first Fifth-day of each month, at 11 A. M.

Lincoln Executive Meeting is held on the second Fifth-day, in the Second, Fifth, Eighth and Eleventh months, at 2 o'clock P. M. Meeting for worship on the second and fourth First-days of each month, at 11 o'clock A. M.

Clerks and Correspondents.

ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING.

CLERK.

Oliver Wilson, Magnolia, Putnam county, Illinois.

CORRESPONDENTS.

Martha M. Wilson, Magnolia, Putnam county, Illinois; Edith Mills, Mt. Palatine, Illinois.

TREASURER.

Amos B. Wilson, Magnolia, Putnam county, Illinois.

RECORDER.

Amos B. Wilson, Magnolia, Putnam county, Illinois.

LITERATURE DEPOSITORY CLERK.

Abel Mills, Mt. Palatine, Illinois.

Meeting of Ministers' and Elders' Clerk.—Lauretta H. Nichols, State Centre, Iowa.

Blue River Quarterly Meeting Clerks.—Griffith E. Coale, Holder, Illinois; Mary Trueblood, Salem, Indiana, and Edith Price, Clear Creek, Illinois.

Blue River Monthly Meeting Clerk.—Martha Baynes, Salem, Indiana.

Blue River Executive Meeting Clerk.—James W. Heacock, Canton, Indiana.

Clear Creek Monthly Meeting Clerk.—Morris A. Wilson, Magnolia, Illinois.

Benjaminville Monthly Meeting Clerk.—Benjamin Coale, Holder, McLean county, Illinois.

East Jordan Executive Meeting Clerk.—Edwin John, Penrose, Illinois.

Chicago Executive Meeting Clerk.—Edward Speakman, 482 West Adams street, Chicago.

Prairie Grove Quarterly Meeting Correspondent.—Thos. E. Hogue, Downey, Iowa.

Prairie Grove Quarterly Meeting Clerks.—Benj. F. Nichols, State Centre, Iowa; Eliza T. Whitacre, Iowa City, Iowa.

Prairie Grove Monthly Meeting Correspondent.—Robert Blackburn, Winfield, Iowa.

Prairie Grove Monthly Meeting Clerk.—Theodore Russell, Winfield, Iowa.

Wapsieonoc Monthly Meeting Correspondent.—Horace G. Welch, Downey, Cedar county, Iowa.

Wapsieonoc Monthly Meeting Clerk.—Horace G. Welch, Downey, Iowa.

Marietta Monthly Meeting Correspondent.—Benjamin F. Nichols, State Centre, Iowa.

Marietta Monthly Meeting Clerk.—Lauretta H. Nichols, State Centre, Iowa.

Genoa Monthly Meeting Correspondent.—Geo. S. Truman, Genoa, Nance county, Nebraska.

Genoa Monthly Meeting Clerk.—David Brown, Genoa, Nance county, Nebraska.

Richland Monthly Meeting Clerk and Correspondent.—Isaac T. Lukens, Hoopeston, Illinois.

Illinois Yearly Meeting Committees.

REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE.

Martha Baynes, Salem, Indiana.
 Lowrey Trueblood, Salem, Indiana.
 Thomas Trueblood, Hitchcock's, Indiana.
 James Heacock, Canton, Indiana.
 Mary G. Smith, Hoopeston Illinois.
 Charles A. Lukens, Hoopeston, Illinois.
 Elizabeth H. Coale, Holder, "
 Benjamin Coale, " "
 Edward Coale, " "
 Mary E. Coale, " "
 Rebecca Mills, Clear Creek, "
 Joshua L. Mills, Mt. Palatine, "
 Hannah S. Mills, " "
 Abel Mills, " "
 Elizabeth W. Mills, " "
 David Wilson, Evans, "
 Lydia A. Wilson, Evans, "
 Thos. W. Woodnutt, Chicago, "
 Allen J. Flitcraft, " "
 Elma Brown, " "
 Elizabeth T. Law, " "
 Nathan Edsall, Marietta, Iowa.
 Levi K. Pilkington, Springdale, Iowa.
 Edgar Russell, Winfield, Iowa.
 Sarah P. Wilson, Springdale, Iowa.
 Sallie A. R. Canby, Winfield, Iowa.
 Josephine T. Hollingsworth, Downey, Iowa.
 James S. Brooks, Salem, Indiana.
 Abram H. Brown, Holder, Illinois.
 Harley Cooper, Mt. Palatine, Illinois.

Cornelia S. Bedell, Holder, Illinois.
 Alice Coale, " "
 Rebecca J. Kennedy, Bloomington, Illinois.
 Lydia K. Penrose, Sterling, Illinois.
 Martha A. John, Penrose, "
 Robert Blackburn, Winfield, Iowa.
 Mary E. Cooper, " "
 Edward T. Price, " "
 Elwood P. Cooper, " "
 Phebe E. Russell, " "
 Mahlon Hollingsworth, Downey, Iowa.
 Thomas E. Hogue, " "
 Ann Hogue, " "
 Edward P. Whitacre, Iowa City, "
 Eliza T. Whitacre, " "
 Ann E. Mead, West Liberty, "
 Ann Eliza Harrison, " "
 William W. Lamborn, " "
 Elijah Hogue, " "
 Joseph Hartly, Centredale, "
 Lydia Hartly, " "
 Benj. F. Nichols, State Centre, "
 Laurette H. Nichols, " "
 Thomas D. Tomlinson, Marietta, "

PHILANTHROPIC LABOR COMMITTEE.

(See Pages 12 and 13.)

Names of members added to Committee this year but not assigned to sub-committees:

E. T. Price, Winfield, Iowa.
 Mary E. Poulson, Chicago, Illinois.
 Eliz. H. Coale, Holder, Illinois.
 Clarkson Wood, _____
 E. Anna Wilson, Penrose, Illinois.
 H. A. Plummer, Chicago, "
 Isaac T. Lukens, Hoopeston, "
 Chalkley John, Penrose, "
 Nathan F. Smith, _____
 Joseph Webster, Monroe, Nebraska.
 David Brown, Genoa, Nebraska.

DINING HALL COMMITTEE.

Oliver Perry Mills, Mt. Palatine, Illinois.
 Amos B. Wilson, Magnolia, "
 Mary W. Smith, Clear Creek, "
 Mary V. Griffith, " " "
 Elijah Hogue, Downey, Iowa.

VISITING COMMITTEE.

Edward Coale, Holder, Illinois.
 Thomas E. Hogue, Downey, Iowa.
 David Wilson, Evans, Illinois.
 Sarah Ann Coale, Holder, "
 Thos. H. Trueblood, Hitchcock's, Indiana.
 Allen J. Flitcraft, Room 6, Tribune Building, Chicago.
 Abel Mills, Mt. Palatine, Illinois.
 Griffith E. Coale, Holder, "
 Benj. F. Nichols, State Centre, Iowa.
 Phoebe Russell, Winfield, "
 Mary G. Smith, Hoopeston, Illinois.
 J. W. Plummer, 52 Lake St., Chicago.
 Charles A. Lukens, Hoopeston, Illinois.
 Lydia A. Wilson, Evans, "
 Stephen Williams, Urbana, "
 Elijah Hogue, Downey, Iowa.
 Elwood P. Cooper, Winfield, "
 Isaiah Lightner, Matson, Nebraska.
 Thomas D. Tomlinson, Marietta, Iowa.
 Joshua Mills, Mt. Palatine, Illinois.
 Elwood Trueblood, Hitchcock's, Indiana.

ABEL MILLS, Clerk, Mt. Palatine, Illinois.

COMMITTEE ON FIRST-DAY SCHOOL INTERESTS.

Mary E. Trueblood, Salem, Indiana.
 Abram H. Brown, Holder, Illinois.
 Oliver Perry Mills, Mt. Palatine, Illinois.
 Mary A. Nichols, State Centre, Iowa.
 Edward Trueblood, Salem, Indiana.
 Horace Welch, Downey, Cedar County, Iowa.
 Alice Coale, Holder, McLean county, Illinois.

COMMITTEE ON ISOLATED MEMBERS AND LITERATURE.

Edward Coale, Holder, McLean county, Illinois.
 John B. Price, Clear Creek, Putnam Co., "
 William M. Price, Wyanet, Bureau "
 Thomas D. Tomlinson, Marietta, Iowa.
 Wm. W. Lamborn, West Liberty, Iowa.
 Sydney Averill, Wyanet, Bureau Co., Illinois.
 David Wilson, Evans, Marshall "
 Milton K. Smith, Hoopeston, "
 Jos. A. Dugdale, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.
 Thos. H. Trueblood, Hitchcock's P. O., Washington Co., Ind.
 Mahlon Hollingsworth, Downey, Iowa.
 Mary P. Ninde, Oskaloosa, "
 Lydia K. Penrose, Sterling, Whiteside county, Illinois.
 Martha M. Wilson, Magnolia, Putnam county, Illinois.
 Ann E. Mead, Downey, Iowa.
 Mary Ann Bedell, Holder, McLean county, "
 Julia A. Brown, " " " "
 Anna Wilson, Magnolia, Putnam "
 Phoebe C. Flowers, Clear Creek, Putnam county, "
 Elmira R. Worrell, Pasadena, California.
 Lydia Griffith, Clear Creek, Putnam county, "
 Rebecca Marsh, Marietta, Marshall county, Iowa.

ABEL MILLS, Clerk, Mt. Palatine, Putnam county, Illinois.

Error.—On page 30, list of isolated members of Marietta Monthly Meeting, in last name of list read "Hole" instead of "Hale."

INDEX.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS.....	Page 3
REPORTS—	
Treasurer's Statement.....	" 11
Dining Hall.....	" 11
Philanthropic Labor Committee.....	" 12
Corrupt Literature and Social Impurity.....	" 14
Gambling and Kindred Vices.....	" 15
Indian Affairs.....	" 19
Peace and Arbitration.....	" 22
Prison Affairs.....	" 24
Temperance.....	" 26
Librarian.....	" 27
Visiting Committee.....	" 28
Names and Postoffice Address of Isolated Members.....	" 29
Committee on Isolated Friends.....	" 31
Committee on First-day School Interests.....	" 31
Ministers and Elders—Answers to Queries.....	" 31
Exercises of Meeting.....	" 32
Statistical Table.....	" 36
Memorial—Charles Brooks.....	" 37
Essay on Music—Thos. E. Hogue.....	" 39
EPISTLES—	
New York Yearly Meeting.....	" 42
New York Women Friends.....	" 44
Genesee Yearly Meeting.....	" 46
Genesee Yearly Meeting.....	" 48
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.....	" 50
Philadelphia Women Friends.....	" 51
Baltimore Men Friends.....	" 53
Baltimore Women Friends.....	" 55
Ohio Yearly Meeting.....	" 56
Ohio Women Friends.....	" 57
Indiana Yearly Meeting.....	" 58
Indiana Women Friends.....	" 61
FIRST-DAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION—	
Minutes.....	" 63
Epistles—Genesee.....	" 65
New York.....	" 66
Philadelphia.....	" 68
Baltimore.....	" 70
Ohio.....	" 72
Indiana.....	" 73
DATES OF MEETINGS.....	" 77
CLERKS AND CORRESPONDENTS.....	" 79
ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING COMMITTEES—	
Representative.....	" 81
Philanthropic Labor.....	" 82
Corrupt Literature and Social Impurity.....	" 12
Gambling and Kindred Vices.....	" 12
Indian Affairs.....	" 12
Peace and Arbitration.....	" 12
Prison Affairs.....	" 12
Temperance.....	" 13
Dining Hall.....	" 83
Visiting.....	" 83
First-day School Interests.....	" 83
Isolated Members and Literature.....	" 84



